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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EZELL).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 6, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE EZELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

CELEBRATING CONTRIBUTIONS OF BLACK WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Women's History Month and specifically in celebration of the Black women who have shaped the fabric of our Nation, often without much acknowledgment or praise.

As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls, I am deeply committed to correcting these

historical injustices and ensuring that Black women and girls are given the recognition and the resources that they deserve. Black women and girls deserve every possible chance to thrive in school, at work, and in all phases of life.

For centuries, Black women have been the hidden figures, the unsung heroes who have steered our Nation through social revolutions, critical periods of growth, and eras of innovation. From the civil rights movement to the labor movement, Black women have time and time again pushed the needle of progress forward.

I acknowledge two exemplary trailblazers who I often credit as inspiration for my own work to build a better world.

Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress and the first woman to run for the Presidency, embodied the spirit of courage and resilience.

She was truly "unbought and unbossed." She fought back against racism and sexism and never listened when someone told her that she couldn't achieve her dreams. She was a beacon of hope for those of us with an unwavering commitment to justice.

Barbara Jordan, the first Black woman elected to the Texas Senate and the first southern Black woman elected to the United States House of Representatives, made history in countless ways.

She brought the issues of her communities to the forefront and ensured that Congress invested in Black women. She rose above partisanship and spoke truth in the Halls of power.

Today as I speak in this Chamber, I stand on their shoulders, but let us not forget, whether in the Halls of Congress, academia, the corporate world, or, in my case, my entrepreneurial grandmother and my activist mother, there are many shoulders that we can stand on.

Women's History Month serves as a poignant reminder that the contributions of Black women must be amplified and celebrated, ensuring their rightful place in the annals of our Nation's history.

CONSEQUENCES OF OPEN BORDER POLICIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, a British container ship was sunk by Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in the Gulf of Aden.

This attack is yet another example of how, under President Biden's weak and ineffective leadership, our adversaries have been emboldened and our allies left vulnerable.

Last year, President Biden agreed to release more than \$6 billion to Iran, effectively providing more funds and resources to the world's largest state sponsor of terrorism. This is unacceptable. It shows that, yet again, President Biden is unwilling and unable to provide the leadership that Americans want and that Americans need.

When U.S. ships were threatened with sustained rocket attacks, the Biden administration waited weeks to respond, only further emboldening these terrorist groups to continue their aggression.

It is time to return to leadership that embodies President Ronald Reagan's call of peace through strength. The American people simply cannot afford a President that fails to keep America safe.

CONFRONTING A GROWING BORDER THREAT

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in his State of the Union speech tomorrow night, President Biden will be forced to confront the growing threat posed by an open and porous southern border.

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

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



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In the month of January, more than 176,000 illegal immigrants attempted to enter the United States. That was on the heels of the month of December when more than 300,000 illegal immigrants again crossed the southern border.

Because of the open border policies championed by President Biden and enacted by Secretary Mayorkas, these illegal immigrants were bused to our major cities. The consequences of this decision have been felt in nearly every community in the United States.

Schools have been converted into shelters for illegal immigrants. In places like New York City and Denver, government services have been scaled back, and city employees, like librarians, have seen their hours cut in order to provide handouts to people who are in the United States illegally.

At a time when more than 300 suspected terrorists have attempted to enter the U.S., President Biden has thrown open our gates and encouraged this crisis to continue.

Ending catch and release, giving our Border Patrol agents the tools and resources that they need, and resuming construction of the border wall are vital to keeping our Nation safe.

It is time for President Biden to reverse his disastrous border policies and put a stop to this crisis.

CELEBRATING VIRGIN ISLANDS HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week heralds Virgin Islands History Month. It is the beginning of a monthlong celebration in the Virgin Islands of our history.

My being on the House floor as a representative, representing my people of the Virgin Islands, is the culmination of generations of people's work. My presence here is built upon the indomitable spirit of Virgin Islanders whose legacies are woven into the very fabric of our culture—marked by their bravery, visionary leadership, and profound sacrifice.

Our homeland is a mosaic of rich cultures and a history as diverse as its people, a history that is not just defined by the actions of a select few but a legacy that elevates the collective greatness of all Virgin Islanders. Above all, we are about self-determination that has been a chronicle of epic feats.

As early as 2200 B.C., the Virgin Islands was originally settled by pre-Columbian indigenous groups. In 1493, we had the first instance of self-determination on our island as Columbus' expedition encountered strong resistance from a Carib war party at Salt River Bay on the island of St. Croix, preventing his men from establishing a foothold.

Over the next 200 years, control of the islands shifted among various Eu-

ropean nations. The Caribs fought colonization, launching relentless raids until they were completely eradicated by 1590.

This enduring resistance is a hallmark of our ancestral legacy. During 1733, the enslaved also uprose on the island of St. John.

The Akwamu kings and Queen Breffu of present-day Ghana galvanized enslaved people on St. John to seize control of the island for over 6 months in their pursuit of self-liberation. This valiant act of defiance forced Danish authorities to call the Spanish Armada and the French fleet to quell the rebellion and reassert control.

This weekend, we celebrated their decision to commit collective suicide rather than go back into slavery. The burning desire for freedom and the belief that such should be a birthright, no matter the fabricated classification of their oppressors, was not lost in the passing of time.

On the island of St. Croix in 1848, enslaved individuals initiated an armed insurrection that ultimately led to their emancipation. This act of strategic ingenuity positioned the Virgin Islands as one of only two instances in the Western Hemisphere where enslaved people successfully fought for and gained their freedom through an organized revolt.

Although Virgin Islanders obtained liberation, they soon discovered that their emancipation and equality were not synonymous.

In 1878, in a revolt over labor laws, which left them pretty much as enslaved peoples living on plantations, a rebellion was led by what we call Queens Mary, Matilda, Agnes, and Susannah.

Even though the movement resulted in bloodshed, their deaths were not in vain. Their struggles and sacrifices for improved working conditions served as a foundational influence on the 1892 Coal Workers' Strike spearheaded by Queen Coziah. This was a pivotal source of inspiration to stand against oppression and fight for greater opportunities.

We continue to fight in the Virgin Islands, and although we still face hardships such as our continued battle to attain the fundamental and constitutional rights denied by the Insular Cases, rights that are given to all Americans except those who live in territories, we are in an era that will be a catalyst to spur on the next revolution.

To stop now, even for a moment, would be sacrilege to the countless sacrifices and bloodshed of our ancestors. We must not take for granted the gifts that they have given us through their bloodshed. We must fight on for full equality, self-determination, and our own liberation.

BORDER CRISIS IS TOP ISSUE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, this Chamber will host President Biden as he delivers his third State of the Union Address.

He will likely tout his anti-energy agenda and out-of-control government spending that has resulted in crippling inflation not seen in decades, not seen since I was a senior in high school.

He will also attempt to blame congressional Republicans for his own failure to secure our borders, which, as most Americans know, is a crisis caused by this President.

In a rare recent visit to the border in Brownsville, Texas, President Biden expressed a dire need for Republicans to "show a little spine" and pass legislation.

Some of the folks living in that border town saw straight through the visit. One resident put it best. "By a stroke of the pen," he said, "you could stop this. You don't need Congress." Others called the visit too little, too late. I couldn't agree more.

This isn't just an important issue for the folks living along the border. In fact, this issue is the number one issue facing the country.

It is an issue in my home State, where 50 Tennessee National Guard soldiers volunteered recently to deploy to the southern border to help Border Patrol officials combat drug, crime, and human trafficking.

Tennessee is known as the Volunteer State because of its deep tradition of volunteer military service, a nickname that comes with a lot of pride. It is just unfortunate that 50 men and women are having to do what the President could do—but won't—and work to secure the border.

This is a self-inflicted crisis that has turned every State, including my own State of Tennessee, into a border State.

The President halted border wall construction and ended the successful remain in Mexico program. Since taking office, he has also admitted more than 1 million illegal immigrants into the country in a blatant abuse of the executive parole authority that Congress had granted to the executive branch.

Despite having no way of tracking many of these people, the Biden administration continues this historic catch and release scheme.

□ 1015

It sends a message to the rest of the world that our borders are open. None of these disastrous policies require an act of Congress, just as reversing them won't require new legislation.

There have been more than 8.7 million illegal border crossings nationwide under President Biden, more than 7.2 million crossings at the southern border alone. That is greater than the population of 36 States in our Nation.

More than 20,000 Communist Chinese nationals have illegally crossed the southern border just since October 1 of last year. They make up the fastest growing demographic entering our

country illegally. You don't need a spy balloon if you can just walk right into the country.

For 35 months in a row under this administration, the number of illegal immigrants encountered at our southern border was higher than the worst month under the previous President, President Trump. We are on track to break more records this fiscal year, as CBP has already reported more than 1 million encounters.

I would argue we no longer have a border crisis in this country, Mr. Speaker, we have a border catastrophe.

OPPENHEIMER'S UNTOLD STORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GIMENEZ). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, this weekend, Oppenheimer is expected to win multiple Oscars.

In the film, we watched the pain and guilt in J.R. Oppenheimer's face when he heard what the atomic bomb did to the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

What the film didn't show—and the story that remains untold—is how thousands of New Mexican families were exposed to harmful amounts of radiation.

We didn't see how radioactive ash rained down on children, families, and farms from that first atomic bomb tested in New Mexico.

We didn't see the tears and pain as those families saw their loved ones die of cancers and rare diseases tied to radiation exposure.

So I present this film one more award: the award for the most incomplete story—for the missing, the countless American lives lost as a result of the Trinity test.

Congress can write a better ending to this story. A bipartisan coalition of Senators and Representatives have amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, which would finally compensate New Mexico downwinders and uranium workers, as well as workers in Missouri, Alaska, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and downwinders in other States who were left out of that original Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Earlier this year, these amendments were included in the NDAA as passed by the Senate. Sadly, Republican leadership for some inexplicable reason stripped these amendments from the final NDAA.

But today, soon, Congress can write a happier ending. We can now include it in our future funding bills.

Let's write an ending that honors those who sacrificed everything for our national security. Congress can do it. I call on my colleagues to join this bipartisan effort for justice.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, as we begin Women's History Month, we must remember something historic that has happened to women and to women's freedoms.

For 50 years, women enjoyed limited but certain reproductive freedoms. A Trump-packed Supreme Court overturned that history, overturned Roe v. Wade, and all of a sudden history, a sad history was made when for the first time in history women lost an essential right.

We are going back to a very sad time when women cannot make decisions about how and when and if to have a family without governmental interference.

We are going back to a sad time in history when women who were suffering complications from pregnancy, who were suffering miscarriages, cannot get healthcare, but instead, get handcuffs.

We are suffering a sad time in history when IVF is now prohibited in places like Alabama; and let us remind everybody, almost 200 Republicans in this very Chamber have voted for, have co-sponsored legislation which mirrors the Alabama law, which prohibits IVF.

As we begin Women's History Month, let's not turn back the clock on women's progress.

CONGRATULATING BRUCE REDMOND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bruce Redmond on becoming the 2024 Georgia Farmer of the Year.

Bruce owns Shiloh Farms, which is a 2,800-acre farm located in Effingham County consisting of wet and drylands.

Larry Redmond passed down the art of farming to his son, instilling in him the essential skills and values needed to cultivate the land.

Bruce is a very successful farmer, having been named the Young Farmer of the Year for Effingham County, Georgia Outstanding Young Farmer, and Effingham County Friend of 4-H.

Shiloh Farms is one of the three certified TifQuik growers in the world and the largest producer of Bahia grass seed in the southeast.

The University of Georgia's Cooperative Extension named Bruce as Farmer of the Year because of his cooperation with conservation research initiatives and dedication to sustainable farming.

He will represent Georgia in competing for Southeastern Farmer of the Year in October.

I wish Bruce luck, and I thank Bruce for his dedication to Georgia agriculture.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOY POVEC

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Joy Povec.

Joy grew up in Savannah, Georgia, where she graduated from Robert W. Groves High School and went on to earn a degree from Draughon Business College.

Joy and her husband, Michael, lived in many different States during which Joy held a variety of positions.

After working in real estate, Joy went on to work for Lockheed Martin as a technical writer during the Space Shuttle program.

Joy was also an active member of her community. She was a dedicated member of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Chatham County Republican Party, and the Froebel Circle.

In 2009, Joy was honored with the J.C. Lewis Outstanding Republican of the Year Award by Chatham County.

Joy also served as a delegate to many local and State Republican conventions, and she was proud to attend the second inauguration of George W. Bush.

My thoughts and prayers go out to her husband of 55 years, her children, grandchildren, and all else who loved her.

RECOGNIZING JOHN FORBES

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Forbes for being designated as the grand marshal for the 2024 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah.

For his service and community involvement, the Savannah community is proud to extend Forbes the opportunity to serve as the face of this St. Patrick's Day Parade on its 200th anniversary.

Forbes is continuing a family legacy by serving in the St. Patrick's Day ceremony. His father, John J. Forbes, Jr., was the St. Patrick's Day committee chairman in the early 1990s and was selected as grand marshal for the 1998 celebration.

Following the example set by his father, Forbes became involved in the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee in the 1980s and was subsequently named the general chairman for the committee in 2007.

Though filled with fun activities, the parade has a deeper meaning for Forbes. The holiday is one of remembrance and fellowship as locals and visitors gather to reflect on the area's Irish ancestry.

Forbes is a true community man, embodying the current celebration and preserving the meaning and purpose of its history.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate John.

CONGRATULATING MARK HENDRIX

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark Hendrix for recently being named Superior Court Judge for the Atlantic Judicial Circuit.

Established by the Georgia General Assembly, the six-county circuit covers Liberty, Long, Bryan, Evans, McIntosh, and Tattnall Counties.

Hendrix received a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in 1995. In the years prior, he earned his juris doctor from Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law in 1999.

His past work and experience illustrate that he is a valuable addition to the judicial system. Along with starting his private practice, Hendrix has served as solicitor general for Liberty County, Long County, and Richmond Hill.

He also served for nearly a decade as an assistant district attorney for the Atlantic Judicial Circuit.

Hendrix's acceptance for the nomination demonstrates his commitment to the legal field where he has already amassed an impressive 23 years of experience.

I thank Mr. Hendrix for working to serve his community, and I look forward to witnessing his future success.

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the inclusion of Community Project Funding in the bipartisan appropriations package that Congress will vote on this week.

The appropriations process known as Community Project Funding is what I consider to be good government working for the people. It is a process that takes our Federal tax dollars and puts them directly back into our communities.

Since serving in Congress, it has been my mission to bring Federal dollars home to my constituency. The Community Project Funding process has allowed me to do that successfully.

Over the past 2 years, I secured a total of \$44 million for 25 projects in the Sixth District of North Carolina.

That funding supported projects like one-on-one tutoring in public schools, first responder system upgrades, the building of greenways, childcare expansion, small business incubators, and much more.

For this fiscal year, I submitted 15 projects for consideration. I am very excited to announce that I secured funding for all 15 projects—a total of \$15 million for the Sixth District.

I am proud to say that every corner of the Sixth District is included with initiatives in Guilford, Forsyth, Caswell, and Rockingham Counties.

These investments will boost economic development, improve public safety, create workforce training programs, support local farmers, complete infrastructure programs, and improve affordable housing options.

I will take a moment to highlight just a few of the initiatives that will be receiving funding once this package is signed into law.

Guilford County schools will receive \$850,000 for a workforce development program to prepare workers for advanced manufacturing jobs related to electric vehicles.

Advanced manufacturing training is particularly important in my community where we have a Toyota electric vehicle battery plant and other electric vehicle manufacturers bringing good-paying jobs to the area.

This program will help local students build the necessary skills to take on these jobs after high school graduation.

Rockingham Community College will receive Federal funding to create an

advanced manufacturing training facility on campus.

In Gibsonville, the fire department will receive funding to purchase a new ladder fire truck.

The city of Winston-Salem will be able to expand their Behavioral Evaluation and Response Team, a rapid response program for mental health and substance abuse 911 calls.

These projects are prime examples of how government can work directly for the American people.

I thank our Democratic leaders HAKEEM JEFFRIES and ranking member ROSA DELAUNO for fighting to make sure these Community Funding Projects are included in the appropriations package.

I am looking forward to voting for the appropriations package this week, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, in the House and the Senate, to join me in voting for this package to get it quickly to President Biden's desk.

□ 1030

HONORING HENRY SIENKIEWICZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. WILLIAMS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor World War II veteran Mr. Henry Sienkiewicz of Syracuse, New York. Mr. Sienkiewicz is the son of Polish immigrants and has lived his entire life in his hometown of Syracuse.

Mr. Sienkiewicz served his country as a bombardier on a B-17, named "The Saint," in Europe during World War II. He completed 35 brave missions with the 384th Bombardment Group of the 545th Squadron.

On one such mission, on July 19, 1944, the crew was targeting a hydrogen peroxide and chemical works plant in Munich, Germany. Mr. Sienkiewicz recalls shells hitting the B-17 from every which way. He recalls how several of his fellow crew members were wounded, including the navigator, and how he helped save the lives of everyone on the plane when he stepped in and navigated them all back to safety. When faced with danger, Mr. Sienkiewicz did not cower in fear but rather did what needed to be done to keep fighting.

Upon his return from the war, Mr. Sienkiewicz still felt the call to serve and did so for 30 years as a captain of the Syracuse Fire Department. During his time at the fire department, Mr. Sienkiewicz was known for his bravery and leadership and was even awarded a medal for saving a man from the second story of a burning home. While it wasn't easy work, Mr. Sienkiewicz felt rewarded by the opportunity to help his fellow neighbors and ensure the safety of his community.

Even with all this, Mr. Sienkiewicz still wanted to do more. For over 50 years, he sold poppy flowers outside of

supermarkets to raise money to help support his fellow veterans and their families with medical and financial needs, remembering that:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row . . .
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high . . .
We shall not sleep though poppies grow in
Flanders fields.

That poem really touches on his acts of service. Mr. Sienkiewicz dedicated his life in an inspiring way, and we can all learn something from his story. I commend him for his brave and selfless service to our great Nation, his community, and to his fellow veterans. It is a privilege to recognize him today, and I wish him many more joyful years.

HONORING COLLEEN POBUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a spotlight on a truly extraordinary woman, my good friend and amazing district chief of staff, Colleen Pobur. Today is Colleen's birthday, and I am delighted to recognize her on this special occasion. Colleen is not only a leader in my office, but she is a leader in Oakland County, Michigan, and throughout the metro Detroit region.

As a lifelong Michiganiaan, Colleen is a proud, if not the proudest, graduate of the University of Michigan. She graduated with a degree in French and obtained the ability to speak the language fluently.

Of course, she has an undying passion for Michigan football. Whether in the stadium or in her living room, she can be found avidly cheering on the Wolverines during every single game and, of course, adorning her U of M paraphernalia. Suffice to say, last fall was a pretty good one for Colleen when the U of M Wolverines were the undefeated champions.

Since graduating, in reality, if not in spirit, Colleen has spent her extraordinary career making life better for the people of Michigan. Colleen's contributions as a businesswoman and a public servant are truly too numerous to count, but here are just a few.

If you have ever flown through the Detroit airport and gotten something to eat, that is thanks to Colleen, who developed the award-winning buffet of concession options at DTW.

If you have ever had a beer in Michigan, that is thanks to Colleen. She kept bars open and legally serving after being appointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

Of course, if you are a constituent in Michigan's 11th District and have ever had a Federal Government case solved, well, that is thanks to Colleen, who oversees our exceptional casework program and has helped the team return thousands of dollars to Michiganders'

pockets. Yes, she even regularly picks up the phone in our office to engage and talk with constituents directly. No task is too big or too small for Colleen.

Colleen has also worked in the private sector where she served as vice president of strategic public affairs and as director of the new product launch strategies for the Compuware Corporation, as well as the director of external relations and economic development for Ameritech Michigan.

Colleen has also worked tirelessly to represent her community as a member of the Plymouth City Commission for over a decade, in addition to chairing the Plymouth's Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, serving on the Plymouth Economic Development Corp, and overseeing the fire department that serves the communities of Northville and Plymouth. If there is an arcane or overly complicated municipal precedent, Colleen has the ability to explain it and already knows all about it.

When she is not making Oakland County run, Colleen is also a mom to college-age twins, Caroline and Will. Whether visiting Caroline in England or cheering on Will at a game, Colleen is a woman on the move. She is a dedicated friend, sister, and public servant. She is whip smart and has a one-liner for every situation. She makes us all laugh regularly and makes sure we are up to date on Michigan sports stats. She is truly a renaissance woman, a role model, and a leader.

Colleen's drive and dedication to Oakland County are unmatched. She is clearly not someone to rest on her laurels. She has a heart for Michigan and a head for business, and I couldn't be luckier that she is on my team. I truly could not imagine these terms in Congress without her counsel, advice, and willingness to talk to me on the phone or in person, no matter the hour.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Colleen on her special day, from all of us in Oakland County and here in the Congress, happy birthday. As *The Washington Post* or *The Wall Street Journal* has recognized people born in her birth year, she continues to redefine norms and transform society. Here's to many more years of making life just a little bit better for the people of Michigan.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PAT O'TOOLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. D'ESPOSITO). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of my friend, Mr. Pat O'Toole, a Wyoming cattle and sheep rancher and hay grower whose deeply rooted passion for agriculture and love for his community and State will never be forgotten.

I first met Pat when he served with my father in the Wyoming House of Representatives. He championed numerous agriculture issues during his time in the State legislature and with

the many organizations that he was a part of. He worked with several Governors' administrations to advocate for agriculture on the State level and testified before the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate on multiple occasions.

Pat was one of the first individuals to ever call my Congressional office. He did so seeking help for farmers and ranchers in southwestern Wyoming who were experiencing record amounts of snow and winter kill. Because of his efforts working with State and Federal leaders, a state of emergency was declared for the impacted area.

Pat, along with his wife, Sharon, and their family, operated Ladder Ranch in the Little Snake River Valley and were the recipients of the 2014 Wyoming Leopold Environmental Stewardship Award. Ladder Ranch has been in Sharon's family since 1881, 9 years before Wyoming even became a State, and is an excellent tribute to the O'Tooles' devotion to agriculture and conservation.

Pat loved his neighbors, cared for his community and State, and sacrificed his time to bless the lives of others. He passed away peacefully on February 25, leaving behind a legacy of selfless service that will be forever cherished by those who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of Mr. Pat O'Toole.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NEVADA KRINKEE

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Sergeant Nevada Krinkee, a Wyomingite who courageously defended our country and whose selfless service to his community will be remembered for generations.

Sergeant Krinkee dedicated his life to serving others and was a proud member of the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army during the global war on terrorism. During his 8 years in the Army, Sergeant Krinkee earned the rank of staff sergeant and was awarded numerous accolades, including the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, and his Jump Master Wings.

Following his time in the Army, Sergeant Krinkee joined the Sheridan Police Department as a patrol officer, where he quickly rose in the ranks to patrol sergeant.

Sergeant Krinkee cared deeply for his community, our great State, his wife, Karla, and daughter, Bella. Although Bella may not remember her father, she will grow up knowing that his heroic actions protected the lives of all of those around her. Sergeant Krinkee's integrity, selflessness, and leadership will always be remembered by his colleagues and community.

On February 13, Sergeant Krinkee tragically lost his life while serving and protecting his community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in remembering the life of Sergeant Nevada Krinkee.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF KELLY KRAUSE

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Kelly Krause, a Wyomingite whose love for his neighbors and the culinary arts will continue to live on through all who knew him, just as Wyoming will continue to cherish him for many years to come.

Kelly was a remarkable individual whose presence graced the lives of everyone he came across. Kelly, along with his wife, Lynette, owned a local Jackson eatery called the Virginian Restaurant, where his passion for his community was evident by all who visited. He always greeted guests with a smile and made them feel as if they were right at home.

On March 1, Kelly tragically lost his life in a skiing accident. As his family, friends, and the Jackson community mourn his passing, please know that my sincere prayers and thoughts are with you.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in remembering the wonderful life of Kelly Krause and standing with his loved ones during these difficult times.

RECOGNIZING THE GOSHEN COUNTY IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Ms. HAGEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Goshen County Irrigation District's 100 years of dedicated service to Wyoming water users.

The district covers hundreds of miles of laterals, drains, and canals and delivers water to over 52,000 acres of farmland in my State. It maintains and operates a portion of the Fort Laramie Canal in partnership with the Gering-Fort Laramie Irrigation District, improving the lives of farmers, ranchers, and everyone who lives in the region. Its work is absolutely vital to the prosperity of these local communities.

Unfortunately, in July of 2019, tunnel number 2 on the Fort Laramie Canal collapsed, impacting more than 100,000 production acres in Wyoming and Nebraska and causing \$89 million in economic impact. Updating and repairing this collapsed tunnel has been an incredibly arduous process, and there is still so much more work to be done. However, Goshen Irrigation District was both resourceful and quick to respond.

Its efforts have helped Wyoming to optimize water usage, balancing the needs of agriculture, industry, and the environment more effectively. It has been instrumental in mitigating the challenges of water in the West.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in celebrating Goshen Irrigation District's 100 years of development and prosperity.

□ 1045

WHAT CALIFORNIA WATER MEANS TO WHOLE COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from

California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, let me talk a little bit more about California water and what it means to the whole country.

Now, we see here President Biden enjoying some ice cream there, as he is known to do. Mr. Speaker, ice cream comes from where? It comes from dairy products.

So, we need cows in order to make the dairy products to make cream, milk, butter, and things like that, part of which you would use to produce ice cream, which almost everybody enjoys. Our dairies in this country need to be supported, and they need not be exported to some other place to make basic things like milk and cream.

California is home to very happy cows, it has been said. Nonetheless, they are less happy having to move to Arizona and places like that due to our own State's horrific regulations.

Still, there are many strong dairies in the upper Midwest, Northeast, and all over the country, really. So we need cows for ice cream and milk. It is pretty basic. We have to remind people of that sometimes.

Mr. Speaker, what do cows need? They need feed. We need to grow the feed in our agricultural places, in our fields in every State and all around the country. Without feed and forage, we can't feed the cows, and we don't get ice cream.

Where do we get the feed, Mr. Speaker? We have to have land, and we have to have a water supply like this lake here. This depicts San Luis Reservoir in central California, which right now is about 68 or 70 percent full.

It should be taking advantage of all this massive rainfall and snowpack that might be melting already in some areas, flowing downhill out through the delta. They have a couple of sets of pumps there that could be running and filling this lake and topping it off.

It is not easy to top this reservoir off every single year. We were fortunate that we got it done last year, despite the water management that we have in government. There was so much water available that they were actually able to run the pumps long enough to fill the reservoir up to about its 2 million acre-feet capacity.

We have a ways to go to fill this reservoir in order to have the strongest possible position for agriculture going into this year so we have dairy, grain, and many other ag products that California is famous for growing.

Let's top off San Luis Reservoir. Let's get these pumps turned on to full blast while we have all this rain and runoff coming down the hill.

Instead, we have millions of acre-feet of water escaping into the oceans—millions. We don't have a water shortage in California. We have a management intelligence shortage. That is the problem.

I have Lake Oroville and Lake Shasta in my district, and they are both

about 600 to 700 acre-feet short of being full, as we watch them run the spillways pretty strongly and let water out.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I know they have to keep a gap at the top for flood control, but they are not using modern thinking on doing that. They need to be able to bring that.

Every day between now and April 1 is one less day of possible rain and possible inflow. They are looking at it as if we are going to overtop, perhaps, but if they don't get these lakes full by June 1 or so, then we are going to leave water on the table, so to speak, and leave agriculture out to dry.

Mr. Speaker, what do we do in order to increase water supply in California?

A couple of things are going on. Thankfully, this appropriations package coming up has \$200 million of Federal money for Sites Reservoir in northern California, which would, once finally built, add 1.5 million acre-feet to the State's water supply.

We could have been filling it right now. With all the runoff, we would probably be 80 percent full if we had that facility there already. We could have been filling it out several times over the last few years.

We lose the opportunity because they are hemming and hawing in Sacramento, and lawsuits keep coming, and, oh, we have to talk about it and study it more.

When I took a tour of that 15 years ago, they said that if you can't build it here environmentally, then you can't build one anywhere.

This is Shasta Dam near Redding in northern California's Shasta County. This is part of the Federal CVP project that was built many years ago. This holds 4.5 million acre-feet when full. Right now, it is down about 700,000 to 800,000 acre-feet from capacity.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I understand that you have to leave some room for flood capacity before the end of the season. Nonetheless, they are actually letting the water go down until the last day or so.

Are they guaranteeing that this lake is going to be full with that last 700,000 acre-feet by the end of the rainy season? I am not sure.

We also have an opportunity on top of that. Including building Sites Reservoir, we can also raise Shasta Dam about 18½ feet and add 640,000 acre-feet or so of new space. If that space was there right now, even if it doesn't fill, would mean they are not having to dump the water right now because you would have that extra capacity, that gap, for flood control. We would not be dumping and wasting this water.

On top of that, there are people in the Central Valley watching this water being dumped who are going to get only 15 percent of the requested water right of what they asked for. We need to build these.

Please follow [facebook.com/groups/CaliforniaWaterForFoodMovement](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CaliforniaWaterForFoodMovement) if you want to follow up, Mr. Speaker, and learn in plain language on social

media how this works. It is a really good source that anybody can understand.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I have dedicated my career to making the Federal Government a better partner for livable communities. These are places where families are safe, healthy, and more economically secure.

One of the most important tools in making a community livable is the promotion of historic preservation.

It is more than just preserving landmarks or putting up plaques. The historic preservation movement has resulted in preserving over 45,000 historic buildings that celebrate and inform our heritage and our past.

Historic preservation helps us understand who we are, where we went, and what we might be.

I fought to protect these historic treasures that enrich community by recycling buildings that preserve that heritage. Not only do they give definition and character to our communities, but they are also a powerful boost for the local economy.

A building that has been renovated creates many more jobs because it is labor intense and it is located in historically relevant space. Preserving these buildings makes communities stronger, more resilient, and more energy efficient than abandoning historic locations for new construction, which is often outside of the core area.

A green building is one that has been revitalized and rebuilt rather than new construction.

Historic preservation helps revitalize adjacent properties. The value radiates out from the historic property. Historic preservation is a tremendous attraction for tourism.

Because it is so labor intense, the historic tax credit has created nearly 3 million jobs since its creation 40 years ago and has attracted \$173 billion in private capital. That means each dollar for credit generates \$4 in private investment.

You don't need to be a billionaire developer.

Projects that employ historic preservation on a smaller scale make it possible for a broader range of owners to participate, sharing the advantages.

That is why the National Park Service found that in one study \$33 billion in tax credits generated over \$38 billion in Federal tax revenue.

This is a program that pays for itself even before consideration of the increased value of surrounding properties and the benefits of tourism and energy savings.

Because it is labor intense, the historic tax credit has created nearly 3,000,000 jobs since its creation barely 40 years ago and has attracted approximately \$173 billion in private capital.

This means that each dollar of the tax credit generated \$4 in private investment.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to think of another Federal program that makes such a strong contribution to the sense of place, revitalizing of local economies, promoting tourism, and encouraging other investment.

We will continue fighting to preserve this important private incentive for rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings. It is changing the face of American communities, both rural and urban, by making such an investment protecting our heritage.

By celebrating our past, we promote our future in a way that is cost-effective and respectful of that heritage. I can't think of another program I have been involved with that has had such a profound effect on the livability of our communities.

Historic preservation doesn't just celebrate and strengthen physical community. It speaks to the life and the spirit that is so vital.

Preserving a community's past heritage is an important example across the country for projects large and small that inspire such pride celebrating the past while we invest in the future.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 52 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Hear the prayers, O Lord, of those who have seen affliction, the cries of those who find themselves in darkness without any light. For the people of Ukraine, who this very day endure the precariousness of their future, the peril threatening their livelihoods, the poverty of hope, the pain of death.

In all this time under siege, Ukrainian men and women have been a testimony of faith in the face of adversity, trusting in Your protection, certain of Your deliverance.

God, now their souls are bereft of peace. They have lost the memory of happiness.

We lift our prayers on behalf of those who have lost their voice. May our prayers of intercession reach Your ears.

Call again to their minds, that Your steadfast love, O Lord, never ceases. Your mercies will never come to an end. This day, Your mercies are new again, for great is Your faithfulness.

Loving God, be their portion that they would find their hope in You.

In Your merciful name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

BIDEN BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, during a rare visit to the southern border last week, President Biden expressed a dire need for congressional Republicans "to show a little spine" and pass border legislation.

Let's be clear: House Republicans have passed legislation. The Secure the Border Act of 2023 would require construction of the border wall to restart, increase the number of Border Patrol agents, and strengthen and streamline our existing asylum process. Lastly—and this one is critical—it would finally put a stop to the Biden administration's massive catch and release operation.

More than 1 million illegal immigrants have been released into the United States on parole under President Biden—a blatant abuse of executive parole authority under the law.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, none of the President's open-border policies require an act of Congress, just as reversing them won't require new legislation.

HONORING GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a hero of our American Revolution, General Casimir Pulaski.

Born in Poland in 1745, Pulaski went on to serve as a central figure in the Bar Confederation, organizing his fellow Poles to fight for their liberty against political control by the brutal Russian empire.

Though the Bar Confederation ultimately failed, Pulaski never lost his dedication to the fight for liberty. Unable to return to Poland, he came to the aid of the Continental Army in the American Colonies. Benjamin Franklin wrote that General Pulaski was "famous throughout Europe for his bravery and conduct in defense of the liberties of his country. . . ."

Pulaski became the father of the American cavalry, bringing his equestrian skills to our fight for independence. Though he died heroically leading a charge during the siege of Savannah, he continues to inspire us to this day.

Each year, America honors the first Monday of the month of March as Casimir Pulaski Day. I join my fellow Polish Americans in celebrating the life of General Casimir Pulaski, a true champion of freedom and liberty for all.

CELEBRATING MAJOR FRANK T. BRANDON'S 104TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable American hero, Major Frank T. Brandon, on his 104th birthday yesterday. From New York to Virginia, Major Brandon's legacy is woven into the fabric of our Nation through his service in the Army Air Corps during World War II and his 54 years of serving our country.

During World War II as a member of the Army Air Corps, he showcased extraordinary heroism as a glider pilot in the treacherous skies of Operation Market Garden fought in German-occupied Netherlands.

After his aircraft was shot down and captured by enemy forces, Major Brandon endured captivity until the tide of liberation turned with General Patton's forces.

After the war, he continued to serve in the U.S. Air Force, which used to be the U.S. Army Air Corps until June 1966. He retired with the rank of major. His strength and inspiration did not go unrecognized. He has received many awards and accolades for his years of meritorious service, including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, POW Award, Air Award, and personal recognition from President George Bush and President Bill Clinton, as well as a citation from Secretary Dick Cheney in commemoration of his 50 years of government service. He now resides in Bentonville, Virginia.

As we celebrate his remarkable century-plus 4, we salute Major Brandon not only for his wartime sacrifices but also for his lifelong service to our Commonwealth and country.

Madam Speaker, I wish Major Brandon a happy birthday. On behalf of Virginia's Sixth, I extend our deepest gratitude and best wishes.

BIDEN IMPORTS VOTERS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. During the State of the Union speech tomorrow, Biden will blame others for the border crisis, which Biden alone created.

Since Biden has taken office, nearly 10 million illegal aliens have crossed the border, including over 20,000 military-aged men from dictatorships in just the last 5 months.

Yesterday, Elon Musk shocked America by exposing Biden secretly flew 320,000 unvetted aliens into the U.S. Musk warned: "The groundwork is being laid for something far worse than 9/11."

He also said: "This administration is both importing voters and creating a national security threat. . . ."

"This is why groups . . . fight . . . to stop voter ID requirements. . . ."

When America is attacked, voter ID should be mandatory for fair elections. The safety of American families is endangered by Biden's quest for more voters.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new voter laws; we need to enforce existing laws. Biden shamefully opens borders for dictators, as more 9/11 attacks in America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

CONGRATULATING ATHLETES

(Mr. TIFFANY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIFFANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 12 young athletes from across the Seventh District of Wisconsin who brought home individual State wrestling championship titles for 2024.

Liam Neitzel, Owen Wasley, Colton Hush, Gage Losiewicz, Wyatt Ingham, Ian Smith, Koy Hopke, Wyatt Unser, Dawson Johnson, Matthew Roach, Ava Gardner, and Madison Burns left it all on the mat to bring home State championship titles.

A special shout-out to Dawson Johnson of Cumberland High School and Koy Hopke of Amery High School on becoming four-time State champions—being only 2 of 29 ever to do this in Wisconsin.

Again, I congratulate all of these athletes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2799, EXPANDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL ACT OF 2023; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7511, LAKEN RILEY ACT

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1052 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1052

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2799) to make reforms to the capital markets of the United States, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7511) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MALOY). The gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, last night the Rules Committee met and produced a rule, House Resolution 1052, providing for the House's consideration of several pieces of legislation.

The rule provides for H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act, to be considered under a structured rule. It provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rules provide for H.R. 7511, the Laken Riley Act. H.R. 7511 would be considered under a closed rule, and it also provides for 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

□ 1215

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and in support of the underlying pieces of legislation.

I begin with H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Financial Services Committee, I am glad to see this important legislation before us today. I am also glad this rule makes in order a number of amendments, including all of the bipartisan amendments that were submitted.

In the last few years, we have seen fewer and fewer companies take advantage of opportunities to raise capital, largely due to burdensome compliance costs and regulatory obstacles.

It is crucial that American entrepreneurs have the tools they need to grow their businesses and that we create opportunities for individuals to invest and save for the future.

This bill aims to strengthen our public markets, expand options for companies to raise capital, and empower Americans, giving them more choices to invest and grow their wealth.

By cutting the red tape and creating new avenues for economic growth, we can create jobs and opportunities for American workers, businessowners, and investors. We can put America back on a path to prosperity and safeguard our future.

I am proud to have one of my own bills, the Regulation A+ Improvement

Act, included as part of this bill package. The bill would raise the cap for Regulation A and allow for more small- to mid-size companies to raise money from everyday investors.

At a time when many Americans are feeling the effects of inflation, this legislation could not be timelier. It can help create jobs and grow the economy. Our capital markets in these United States are the cornerstone of our economy and among our greatest strengths.

This bill ensures that entrepreneurs and investors can take full advantage of what our markets have to offer. Through this, we can give small businesses and investors alike all the tools necessary to achieve the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, unlike the previous bill I discussed, I am deeply saddened to be on the floor discussing the situation at hand and angry that we find ourselves here. It is unfortunate we must have this necessary conversation, driven by the tragic events such as the senseless murder of Laken Riley.

This legislation and the underlying rule are in response to the brutal murder of Laken Riley, a college student in Georgia, whose life was cut short by a suspect who was an illegal immigrant with prior arrests in both New York and Georgia before allegedly committing this crime.

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security to issue a detainer to any alien inadmissible to the United States who has been charged with, arrested for, or convicted of burglary, theft, larceny, or shoplifting.

As ICE describes it themselves, detainees are “an effective tool in keeping criminals out of local communities by allowing ICE officers to take custody of criminal noncitizens within the confines of a jail.”

If the alien is not in custody at the time of the detainer, Immigration and Customs Enforcement is required to promptly take custody.

Additionally, H.R. 7511 allows States to bring civil action against the Federal Government for failing to enforce immigration laws, including parole, detention and removal, and visa sanctions that we know this administration is not enforcing. Simply put, this gives States standing in court and recourse for their constituents who are victims of the enforcement decisions, or lack thereof, by this administration; decisions that have consequences like the very ones we are talking about today.

The Biden administration’s failure to secure our southern border has emboldened the criminal cartels, leading to increased drug trafficking and overdose deaths, human smuggling, and the influx of dangerous individuals into the country.

These threats extend far beyond border States, affecting every corner of our Nation. Every State is now a border State.

Unfortunately, Laken’s story is not unique. Speaker Johnson recently documented over 100 similar situations

where American citizens have been victims of crimes committed by illegal aliens, underscoring the urgency of addressing our border security crisis.

The border is no longer a matter for debate. It is a pressing issue, and it demands immediate action. We cannot simply hold hearings and discussions in Washington. We need real solutions to protect the American people. The President must take decisive action to secure our border, starting with signing this critical bill into law.

I look forward to the House completing its consideration of both pieces of legislation, and I urge the passage of this rule.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, we are here today to debate a rule to bring two more MAGA messaging bills to the floor.

H.R. 2799, which might as well be renamed the expanding access to fraud act, is yet another Republican attempt to help Wall Street and their friends at private equity firms, while undermining protections for retirees and other mom-and-pop investors. Republicans are just obsessed with helping their friends on Wall Street. It is pathological. They can’t help themselves. They come to the floor and talk about helping regular people, but every single bill they pass is about helping the Big Oil companies, the Big Pharma companies, the hedge funds, and the lobbyists. Today is no exception.

Today, Republicans are also bringing to the floor H.R. 7511, the Laken Riley Act.

Let me be clear: What happened to Laken Riley is a terrible, terrible tragedy. A 22-year-old nursing student, who everyone says was a deeply compassionate person who spread joy everywhere she went, Laken had her whole life ahead of her. My own daughter is 22, and I can’t even begin to imagine what this family is going through right now. My heart breaks for them, and they are in my prayers.

This should have never happened, and there is no question that the person responsible for her death should go to jail for the rest of their lives.

Madam Speaker, I have to say that I am appalled by my colleagues across the aisle who are using this horrible crime to score political points. It is really sick, to be honest. I think they ought to be ashamed of themselves, if they have any shame left.

The bill that we are dealing with here today was referred to the Judiciary Committee. There was no hearing, no markup. The bill wasn’t even reported out of the committee of jurisdiction. I mean, my Republican friends used to say they cared about regular order. Obviously, that is no longer the case. I mean, the members of the Judiciary Committee did not even have an

opportunity to be able to refine this bill or amend this bill. They just rushed it to the floor because they wanted a quick press release.

Let’s call this out for what it is. We are here with this bill because Donald Trump demanded that MAGA extremists make the border their top issue ahead of the election. He wants Republicans to politicize the border at every turn, including politicizing this awful tragedy. He is calling the shots here, and he wants to use this as an opportunity to say that Democrats somehow support killers.

What a nasty, rotten thing to do, especially after Republicans are the ones who killed a bipartisan border security deal. They killed the deal, the strongest, toughest border security bill that we have ever seen come before Congress, a bill that was negotiated by a very conservative Republican Senator from Oklahoma. Rather than try to find a solution and fix the problem, Donald Trump said to them: No, I just want the issue; do nothing.

Now they have the nerve to come down here and lecture us. Give me a break.

Meanwhile, Democrats are working to actually keep our country safe. Democrats want to fix our broken immigration system. Democrats want justice for victims, and we want real solutions that help make our communities safer from all criminals. We tried to work together with Republicans in a bipartisan way, and they have rejected our attempts every single time.

By the way, Madam Speaker, I really wish our friends across the aisle would show this same passion for the lives lost to gun violence in our country every single day. Sixty people died and over 400 people were injured in Las Vegas. They were all real people: mothers, fathers, children, friends. Where was the Republican outrage then? Silence.

Nineteen kids were shot dead in their classroom in Uvalde. Nothing from my Republican colleagues, nothing at all, no action at all.

Twelve children die every day from gun violence. Where is the Republican legislation to save their lives?

If you don’t want to vote for that legislation, where is the Republican willingness to allow us to bring bills to the floor to deal with the epidemic of gun violence in this country? Nothing.

The beauty of our job is that we are in a position where we can actually do something about these tragedies, Laken’s and others. We could have worked together here to address this tragedy, just like we should work together to address the tragedy of gun violence. Unfortunately, Republicans only talk about crime and violence when it suits them. That is all it is: talk.

To claim that this bill is being brought forward because Republicans care about securing the border, when they tanked one of the toughest bipartisan border bills ever, is a joke. It is a joke, Madam Speaker.

Let's make something abundantly clear. This bill will do nothing to solve any of the problems at the border, not a thing. You know what this bill does? It says let's put more people in immigration detention, including those in the U.S. under a lawful status, like Dreamers and TPS recipients, but let's not allocate any more money to actually detain these people.

You have got to love these people; they are unbelievable.

Our border security already does not have the resources they need to detain everyone the law says they should detain. Why don't they have the resources to do it? Because Republicans have voted time and time again, multiple times, against providing the funding that they need. Now, the other side brings a bill to the floor not to fix a problem but to detain even more people with no new funding to do it.

You can't make this stuff up. You really can't.

These bills they are bringing to the floor, these speeches they are making about border and immigration—look at how they vote. Look at how they vote. They don't want to secure the border. They don't want to fix this issue. They want a campaign slogan for Donald Trump. That is all this is about. It has been their playbook since they took the majority last January, and it is a real shame.

Again, we have the power to do something, to actually solve some of these problems. Rather than coming together in a bipartisan way—and that is what the Senate tried to do—my Republican friends in the House have rejected every single attempt to try to find common ground to bring something forward that can actually pass the House, the Senate, and be signed into law. They are not interested in solutions; they are interested in just complaining. How pathetic.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, you know what is a joke? The joke is that the bill that Democrats proposed in the Senate, with some Republican support, was the strongest border bill in history. That is the joke. That bill would do nothing more than codify Joe Biden's broken border policies.

Republicans in the House won't codify asylum seekers crossing multiple countries to get to the United States. Republicans in the House won't codify letting illegal aliens into our country in record numbers. We will not normalize the broken border policies that have led us here to this point today.

□ 1230

My colleague claims that this is just a political ploy and that we are doing whatever Donald Trump wants us to do. We are doing what the American people want us to do. Donald Trump didn't make this a top issue for American voters. Joe Biden did. By failing to secure the border and failing to protect Americans, he has failed on every measure on this front.

Given the Biden administration's reluctance to issue any detainer requests, this bill, H.R. 7511, mandates that ICE issue a detainer and take custody of aliens who commit crimes.

In Riley's case, the suspect was arrested in Georgia for theft and fingerprinted at a time when ICE was made aware of his crime through NICS. Had this bill been in effect, ICE would have been required to issue a detainer for the suspect and assumed custody. Or if the alien had already been released by State or local law enforcement, they could have apprehended him. The suspect in the Riley case was not detained and was paroled, violating provisions in the existing Immigration and Nationality Act.

H.R. 7511 would give States standing to sue the Biden administration on behalf of its citizens for the harm caused by their failure to enforce existing immigration law.

This is not a political ploy. This is a response to a tragedy and an attempt to prevent further tragedies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my friends on the other side of the aisle: What will it take? What will it take to get Democrats to care about actual border security? How many Americans have to die of fentanyl overdoses or become victims of violent crime? What will it take?

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are sick and tired of the new status quo at our Nation's borders.

The crisis that President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas have done nothing to stop is now affecting every State, every town, every village, and every city. It is endangering the lives of innocent American citizens.

A 22-year-old woman, Laken Riley, in Georgia was brutally murdered and taken from her family by an illegal immigrant who should have been locked up.

Jose Ibarra entered the United States illegally thanks to President Biden's refusal to uphold our laws and secure our border. He was given a one-way ticket on the taxpayer dime to New York City, a city that, thanks to Democrats in New York, has been declared a sanctuary city. Again, this is a self-made, self-imposed crisis on the American people.

After being arrested in New York City for child endangerment, Jose Ibarra was released back on the streets. Why, you might ask, Mr. Speaker? It is because of, once again, the policies of the left. New York State's disastrous bail reform laws have turned the State's justice system into a revolving door for violent offenders.

Democrats in New York City, New York State, and right here in Washington know damn well that this is the

result of their senseless policies. The Biden administration's border crisis and New York's bail reform have shattered lives not just in my home State of New York but also now in the State of Georgia.

How many more American lives will it take for us to close the border? How many violent crimes will it take for this administration and Democratic leaders in cities and States across this country to end their disastrous policies that are endangering the American people and threatening the sovereignty of this country?

I strongly support H.R. 7511, the Laken Riley Act, and I am a proud cosponsor because enough is enough, Mr. Speaker.

House Republicans have passed one measure after another this Congress to bring security—real security—back to our border and real change that ensures that the Federal Government upholds our immigration laws. Our solutions have been greeted with resounding opposition from the same Democrats whose policies have led to this crisis on our border, the crisis in New York City, and now this horrific tragedy and murder in Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of the rule today, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to wake up to this crisis, see the suffering that citizens and noncitizens alike have endured, and support H.R. 7511, the Laken Riley Act.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have news for the gentleman from New York: Republicans now own this issue. Your inaction is one of the reasons why we are not making more progress on our border.

The gentleman who just spoke was in the Rules Committee last night, bragging about the fact that Republicans increased border security funding in their homeland security bill last year. He was bragging about it. Congress 101 tells us that once you pass a bill in the House, you need to send it over to the Senate for them to consider it.

The bottom line is, and maybe the gentleman has an answer to this: Why is your Homeland Security appropriations bill from last year still sitting in this House? Why was it never sent to the Senate?

Again, I say to my friends who are watching here today: Look at their actions. Don't look at their words. Look at their actions.

The gentlewoman from Indiana was talking about the negotiated bipartisan compromise in the Senate as if it was somehow a reflection of President Biden's priorities. Let me remind her that MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate minority leader, said it was one of the toughest immigration border security bills that he has ever seen.

Let me also remind her that the person who was the chief negotiator, Senator LANKFORD of Oklahoma, is the second most conservative Member of the Senate. You can't get any more conservative than he is. By the way, the

man whom my friends are all so afraid of, Donald Trump, has said, when he endorsed Senator LANKFORD, that he is one of the toughest guys around on the border.

This is all about not coming up with a solution. They come to the floor and complain. They complain and point fingers, but they will not work with us on a solution. It is mind-boggling to me. It is cynical.

My friends are in charge of this place. They know that they are in charge of the House by only a small margin. They know that Democrats control the Senate by a small margin. They know we have a Democratic President in the White House.

The gentlewoman says that this is not a ploy. What else would you call it when you bring a bill to the floor that bypasses the committee of jurisdiction and no amendments can be made in order?

You bring it to the floor and know it is going nowhere in the Senate and know it will not become law. What do you call that? It is either a ploy or a total waste of time.

We spend an awful lot of time doing nothing around here, yelling and screaming, but when it comes to actually solving problems, my friends don't want to do it.

My friends, because of your inaction, because of the bills that you have blocked repeatedly, including a supplemental request by President Biden for an additional \$13 billion for border security, your actions have resulted in our not being able to make more progress.

So, my friends own this issue. You own the border security issue. You own the fentanyl issue. You own all of it.

I think the American people are seeing through all of this.

The idea that you would bring a bill like this to the floor to exploit a terrible tragedy, a bill that will do nothing and a bill that you know is going nowhere, is really, really sad.

I have news for my Republican friends: If you want to get stuff done, you have to work with us.

I get it. You are in charge. You will probably get more than I would like you to get, but the idea that somehow you are in control of everything and that this is a dictatorship—not yet. Not yet. I know that may be something we might have to deal with down the road, but not yet.

Right now, we are still a deliberative body. This is still a democracy. If you want to get stuff done, then you have to work with us in a bipartisan way.

Nonetheless, if this is all about show business and press releases, then fine. Have at it. Give more speeches, more complaints, but I am telling you, the American people are getting tired of it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to comment on my colleague's comments about this not going through a regular process. That is just not really correct.

The House Judiciary Committee has held seven hearings on the state of our southern border. They also held a hearing specifically on criminal aliens and the Biden administration's lax immigration enforcement in the interior of the country. In addition, section 4 of H.R. 7511 was marked up in February.

We heard a lot from my colleague on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. HOUCHIN. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have to say facts are important things. There have been no hearings on this bill. There was no markup, and there was no vote to report the bill out of committee. That is a fact.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague on the other side of the aisle says that this is on us, on Republicans, because of our inaction, but we passed H.R. 2, the actual strongest border bill that we have ever seen. We passed H.R. 2 8 months ago, maybe more, and 211 House Democrats voted "no" on that bill. That bill has been sitting in the Senate unmoved ever since.

Senate Republicans even rejected the disastrous border bill ultimately that originated over there that codified all of Joe Biden's terrible border policies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask: Why would this bill go nowhere? Why would we not want to hold illegal aliens accountable? Why would we not want to detain illegal aliens who commit crimes such as theft, larceny, and violent crimes? Why would we not want to move this bill forward in the Senate?

I hope that my colleagues in the Senate on both sides of the aisle would support this.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would note, as a point of clarification, the legislation on the floor, there are two main parts.

The first part that the gentleman from Massachusetts was referring to did not go through committee. He is correct regarding the part that dealt with the issue with respect to ICE detainees relative to theft, burglary, et cetera.

The second half of the bill that deals with standing for States to be able to get into court to challenge the administration's lawlessness with respect to parole and asylum, that part did go through committee and was, in fact, debated.

Again, I am trying to set the record straight. I am acknowledging that the first half didn't, but the first half, the part that deals with theft, burglary, and so forth, so that we can have an

ICE detainer placed on someone, is designed to deal with, in part, what we are dealing with in response to Laken Riley.

What my colleagues on the other side of the aisle do not want to talk about and what we will not hear the President of the United States tomorrow night in this room talk about is Laken Riley.

My colleagues doth protest too much about a bill that is named after someone who was harmed, given the extent of her injuries. There is a whole website dedicated to the bills that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle find a way to name after somebody in the wake of some emergency.

The fact here is we have a young woman who was 22 years old who was killed by someone who was released under mass parole by the policies of this administration, by this President, and by this Secretary of Homeland Security. He is only the second Secretary to be impeached in the history of our country because he has violated his oath to the Constitution, ignored the laws, and endangered the American people.

The simple fact is the President of the United States and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—the radical progressive Democrats who are trying to remake America with wide-open borders—do not want to talk about Laken Riley. They do not want to talk about Kayla Hamilton, who was a 20-year-old with autism in Aberdeen, Maryland. A 17-year-old illegal alien from El Salvador was released into the country as an unaccompanied alien minor and killed Kayla Hamilton. He raped and beat her to death in her home in July 2022.

I do not believe that the President of the United States or my Democratic colleagues want to talk about Kayla Hamilton.

I don't believe that my Democratic colleagues want to talk about Aiden Clark, an 11-year-old boy in Ohio who was killed by a 35-year-old illegal alien who struck a schoolbus full of kids.

I don't think they want to talk about the 2-year-old in Montgomery County, Maryland, who was killed by somebody from Venezuela who was similarly released under mass parole under the policies of this administration, under this President, and under this Secretary of Homeland Security. They don't want to talk about that 2-year-old.

They don't want to talk about the adolescent girl who was raped by a Honduran who was released into the United States, again, under these policies. The simple fact of the matter is that is not what my colleagues want to talk about.

They don't want to talk about the young Texas girl, a cheerleader, murdered in the bathtub. She was found dead by her mom when her mom was expecting to see her at a cheerleading event subsequent to that.

They don't want to talk about that, and the President of the United States,

most assuredly, will not talk about those Americans tomorrow night in this room.

He won't. He will try to hide behind a Senate bill. He will try to hide behind a Senate bill that would have had no chance of passage. They knew it wouldn't pass. He will hide behind a bill that would have codified the mass releases that are endangering the American people, a Senate bill that would not have fixed the parole policies that resulted in the death of Laken Riley.

These are all facts that we know to be true, but my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to hide behind the Senate bill because they know that their policies are indefensible.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is one step in order to honor the memory of Laken Riley, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

□ 1245

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this place is no longer a serious place. My friends are turning the House of Representatives into a debate club. None of this is serious.

The gentleman comes up and tries to claim there was regular order here, that the committee of jurisdiction actually did its job because half of the bill maybe was the subject of a hearing previously. Now my Republican friends are coming to the floor praising half regular order. I don't know. When I was in grade school, 50 percent was a failing grade. My friends are failing on regular order.

If the gentleman was serious about this and my friends on the other side of the aisle wanted to get something passed, my colleagues would conduct themselves in a different manner and actually have regular order and invite Democrats to be able to offer ideas and try to work things out to see whether the majority could have a bill that actually had a chance of going anywhere in the Senate or being signed into law, but that is not what is happening.

The gentleman comes here and starts reading the names of victims. I could sit here and read the names of the 21 victims in Uvalde who were murdered by a man with a gun. I could go right down the list and start naming all the children that were killed, all the mothers and fathers that were killed.

The real challenge for this institution is to actually try to come together in a bipartisan way and solve problems and do something. I don't know how my friends could go home and claim that they are doing anything and be able to point to anything that ever makes it past the finish line.

We are in a divided government. I wish we weren't. I wish Democrats were in control of the House, the Senate, and the White House, all at once. We would get a lot more done. When we were, we actually got some stuff done.

However, that is not the reality, and so we have to deal with the reality.

The reality is, if my colleagues want to get anything done, work has to be done in a bipartisan way, and my colleagues have to respect at least some semblance of regular order. That this bill had to be rushed to the floor with not a single hearing, with no markup, no amendments, no nothing, and the committee of jurisdiction never even had a chance to report it out, it is awful.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we defeat the previous question. If we do, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 12, a bill that would ensure every American has full access to essential reproductive healthcare, including abortion care.

Since the wrongly decided Dobbs decision, every State across America has taken action on abortion in some way. Unfortunately, many Republican-led States, cheered on by Republican Members in this Chamber, have passed laws to either ban some or all abortion care.

Republicans have made it crystal clear that banning abortion nationwide is their goal. Additionally, if trying to ban abortion care is not dangerous enough, extreme Republicans are now doubling down on their attacks on women's reproductive freedom by supporting a bill to ban IVF nationwide. That would criminalize reproductive healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with any extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. BROWN) to discuss our proposal.

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, my guest for the State of the Union tomorrow will be Ms. Annette Watts of Warren, Ohio, the mother of Brittany Watts.

Last year, Brittany Watts dealt with a common medical problem. She had a miscarriage. Instead of receiving care, she was charged with a crime.

Mr. Speaker, this is because of the cynical, sinister, violent, vicious, blatant, barbaric, callous, and cruel agenda to deny women their rights—their right to IVF, to contraception, to miscarriage care, and, yes, the right to an abortion.

One in three women live in States that have passed abortion bans and now face health issues far more dangerous than the procedure itself, like maternal sepsis. In addition, Black women, like Brittany, are on the front line. We are more likely to miscarry, more likely to need an abortion, more likely to die during pregnancy, and, yes, more likely to be targeted.

It is time to restore rights rather than restrict them. We must pass the Women's Health Protection Act because everyone deserves access to reproductive care.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the previous question so

we can bring up this important legislation.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article dated October 28, 2022, in Fortune magazine by the Associated Press entitled, "Fentanyl and related drugs are killing more people than guns and cars combined. Many victims don't realize they're even taking it."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

There was no objection.

[From the Associated Press, Oct. 28, 2022]

FENTANYL AND RELATED DRUGS ARE KILLING MORE PEOPLE THAN GUNS AND CARS COMBINED. MANY VICTIMS DON'T REALIZE THEY'RE EVEN TAKING IT

(By Geoff Mulvihill)

Lillianna Alfaro was a recent high school graduate raising a toddler and considering joining the Army when she and a friend bought what they thought was the anti-anxiety drug Xanax in December 2020.

The pills were fake and contained fentanyl, an opioid that can be 50 times as powerful as the same amount of heroin. It killed them both.

"Two years ago, I knew nothing about this," said Holly Groelle, the mother of 19-year-old Alfaro, who lived in Appleton, Wisconsin. "I felt bad because it was something I could not have warned her about, because I didn't know."

The drug that killed her daughter was rare a decade ago, but fentanyl and other lab-produced synthetic opioids now are driving an overdose crisis deadlier than any the U.S. has ever seen. Last year, overdoses from all drugs claimed more than 100,000 lives for the first time, and the deaths this year have remained at nearly the same level—more than gun and auto deaths combined.

The federal government counted more accidental overdose deaths in 2021 alone than it did in the 20-year period from 1979 through 1998. Overdoses in recent years have been many times more frequent than they were during the black tar heroin epidemic that led President Richard Nixon to launch his War on Drugs, or during the cocaine crisis in the 1980s.

As fentanyl gains attention, mistaken beliefs persist about the drug, how it is trafficked and why so many people are dying.

Experts believe deaths surged not only because the drugs are so powerful, but also because fentanyl is laced into so many other illicit drugs, and not because of changes in how many people are using. In the late 2010s—the most recent period for which federal data is available—deaths were skyrocketing even as the number of people using opioids was dropping.

Advocates warn that some of the alarms being sounded by politicians and officials are wrong and potentially dangerous. Among those ideas: that tightening control of the U.S.-Mexico border would stop the flow of the drugs, though experts say the key to reining in the crisis is reducing drug demand; that fentanyl might turn up in kids' trick-or-treat baskets this Halloween; and that merely touching the drug briefly can be fatal—something that researchers found untrue and that advocates worry can make first responders hesitate about giving life-saving treatment.

All three ideas were brought up this month in an online video billed as a pre-Halloween public service announcement from a dozen Republican U.S. senators.

A report this year from a bipartisan federal commission found that fentanyl and

similar drugs are being made mostly in labs in Mexico from chemicals shipped primarily from China.

In New England, fentanyl has largely replaced the supply of heroin. Across the country, it's being laced into drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine, sometimes with deadly results. And in cases like Alfaro's, it's being mixed in Mexico or the U.S. with other substances and pressed into pills meant to look like other drugs.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has warned that fentanyl is being sold in multi-colored pills and powders—sometimes referred to as “rainbow fentanyl”—marketed on social media to teens and young adults.

Jon DeLena, the agency's associate special agent in charge, said at the National Crime Prevention Council summit on fentanyl in Washington this month that there's “no direct information that Halloween is specifically being targeted or young people are being targeted for Halloween,” but that hasn't kept that idea from spreading.

Joel Best, an emeritus sociology professor at the University of Delaware, said that idea falls in with a long line of Halloween-related scares. He has examined cases since 1958 and has not found a single instance of a child dying because of something foreign put into Halloween candy—and few instances of that being done at all.

“If you give a dose of fentanyl to kids in elementary school, you have an excellent chance of killing them,” he said. “If you do addict them, what are you going to do, try to take their lunch money? No one is trying to addict little kids to fentanyl.”

In midterm election campaigns, fentanyl is not getting as much attention as issues such as inflation and abortion. But Republicans running for offices including governor and U.S. Senate in Arkansas, New Mexico and Pennsylvania have framed the fentanyl crisis as a result of Democrats being lax about securing the Mexican border or soft on crime as part of a broader campaign assertion that Democrats foster lawlessness.

And when Democrats highlight the overdose crisis in campaigns this year, it has often been to tout their roles in forging settlements to hold drugmakers and distributors responsible.

Relying heavily on catching fentanyl at the border would be futile, experts say, because it's easy to move in small, hard-to-detect quantities.

“I don't think that reducing the supply is going to be the answer because it's so easy to mail,” said Adam Wandt, an assistant professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Still, some more efforts are planned on the U.S.-Mexico border, including increasing funding to search more vehicles crossing ports of entry. The bipartisan commission found those crossings are where most fentanyl arrives in the country.

The commission is calling for many of the measures that other advocates want to see, including better coordination of the federal response, targeted enforcement, and measures to prevent overdoses for those who use drugs.

The federal government has been funding efforts along those lines. It also publicizes big fentanyl seizures by law enforcement, though it's believed that even the largest busts make small dents in the national drug supply.

The commission stopped short of calling for increased penalties for selling fentanyl. Bryce Pardo, associate director of the RAND Drug Policy Research Center and a commission staff member, said such a measure would not likely deter the drug trade. But, he said, dealers who sell the products most likely to cause death—such as mixing

fentanyl into cocaine or pressing it into fake Xanax—could be targeted effectively.

One California father who lost his 20-year-old daughter is pushing for prosecutors to file murder charges against those who supply fatal doses.

Matt Capelouto's daughter Alexandra died from half a pill she bought from a dealer she found on social media in 2019, while home in Temecula, California, during a college break. She was told the pill was oxycodone, Capelouto said, but it contained fentanyl.

The dealer was charged with distributing fentanyl resulting in death, but he reached a plea deal on a lesser drug charge and will face up to 20 years in prison.

“It's not that arresting and convicting and putting these guys behind bars doesn't work,” Capelouto said. “The fact is we don't do it enough to make a difference.”

While some people killed by fentanyl have no idea they're taking it, others, particularly those with opioid use disorder, know it is or could be in the mix. But they may not know how much is in their drugs.

That was the case for Susan Ousterman's son Tyler Cordiero, who died at 24 in 2020 from a mixture that included fentanyl after years of using heroin and other opioids.

For nearly two years, Ousterman avoided going by the gas station near their home in Bensalem, Pennsylvania, where her son fatally overdosed. But in August, she went to leave two things there: naloxone, a drug used to reverse overdoses, and a poster advertising a hotline for people using drugs to call so the operator could call for help if they become unresponsive.

Ousterman is funneling her anger and sorrow into preventing other overdoses.

“Fentanyl is everywhere,” she said. “You don't know what's in an unregulated drug supply. You don't know what you're taking. You're always taking the chance of dying every time.”

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, even in 2021, there were double the amount of overdose deaths than firearm deaths in the United States, and the dramatic increase in overdose deaths, particularly due to fentanyl, are a direct result of Joe Biden's broken border policies.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in 2021, U.S. citizens made up 86 percent of convicted fentanyl drug traffickers, 10 times greater than convictions of illegal immigrants for the same offense. Also, over 90 percent of fentanyl seizures occur at legal crossing points or interior vehicle checkpoints, not on illegal migration routes, so U.S. citizens who are subject to less scrutiny when crossing legally are the best smugglers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from the Cato Institute entitled, “Fentanyl is Smuggled for U.S. Citizens by U.S. Citizens, not Asylum Seekers.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From the Cato Institute, Sept. 14, 2022]

FENTANYL IS SMUGGLED FOR U.S. CITIZENS BY U.S. CITIZENS, NOT ASYLUM SEEKERS

(By David J. Bier)

Fentanyl overdoses tragically caused tens of thousands of preventable deaths last year.

Many politicians who want to end U.S. asylum law claim that immigrants crossing the border illegally are responsible. An NPR-Ipsos poll last week found that 39 percent of Americans and 60 percent of Republicans believe, “Most of the fentanyl entering the U.S. is smuggled in by unauthorized migrants crossing the border illegally.” A more accurate summary is that fentanyl is overwhelmingly smuggled by U.S. citizens almost entirely for U.S. citizen consumers.

Here are facts:

Fentanyl smuggling is ultimately funded by U.S. consumers who pay for illicit opioids: nearly 99 percent of whom are U.S. citizens.

In 2021, U.S. citizens were 86.3 percent of convicted fentanyl drug traffickers—ten times greater than convictions of illegal immigrants for the same offense.

Over 90 percent of fentanyl seizures occur at legal crossing points or interior vehicle checkpoints, not on illegal migration routes, so U.S. citizens (who are subject to less scrutiny) when crossing legally are the best smugglers.

The location of smuggling makes sense because hard drugs at ports of entry are about 97 percent less likely to be stopped than are people crossing illegally between them.

Just 0.02 percent of the people arrested by Border Patrol for crossing illegally possessed any fentanyl whatsoever.

The government exacerbated the problem by banning most legal cross border traffic in 2020 and 2021, accelerating a switch to fentanyl (the easiest-to-conceal drug).

During the travel restrictions, fentanyl seizures at ports quadrupled from fiscal year 2019 to 2021. Fentanyl went from a third of combined heroin and fentanyl seizures to over 90 percent.

Annual deaths from fentanyl nearly doubled from 2019 to 2021 after the government banned most travel (and asylum).

It is monstrous that tens of thousands of people are dying unnecessarily every year from fentanyl. But banning asylum and limiting travel backfired. Reducing deaths requires figuring out the cause, not jumping to blame a group that is not responsible. Instead of attacking immigrants, policymakers should focus on effective solutions that help people at risk of a fentanyl overdose.

U.S. CITIZEN CONSUMERS FUND FENTANYL SMUGGLING

U.S. consumer payments for illicit opioids ultimately fund fentanyl smuggling. Consumers pay retail dealers who pay wholesalers, and the cash is then transferred back in bulk cash form to Mexico. These funds are then used to pay smugglers to bring drugs back into the United States again. The best evidence indicates that about 99 percent of U.S. consumers of fentanyl (or products containing fentanyl) are U.S. citizens. Noncitizens appear to be about 80 percent less likely to be fentanyl consumers than their share of the population would predict. Fentanyl smuggling is almost entirely conducted on behalf of U.S. citizen consumers. Of course, consumers would prefer much safer and legal opioids over illicit fentanyl, but the government has unfortunately forced them into the black market with few safe options.

U.S. CITIZENS ARE FENTANYL TRAFFICKERS

Fentanyl is primarily trafficked by U.S. citizens. The U.S. Sentencing Commission publishes data on all federal convictions, which includes demographic information on individuals convicted of fentanyl trafficking. Figure 1 shows the citizenship status of fentanyl traffickers for 2018 to 2021. Every year, U.S. citizens receive the most convictions by far. In 2021, U.S. citizens accounted for 86.3 percent of fentanyl trafficking convictions compared to just 8.9 percent for illegal immigrants.

Note that since trafficking involves movement from Mexico to the United States, it is unclear how to measure the likelihood of conviction for a noncitizen without U.S. lawful immigration status or citizenship since the denominator would include most Mexicans in Mexico as well as anyone who crosses through Mexico. But regardless, the reality is that people with U.S. citizenship or residence traffic the vast majority of fentanyl, not illegal border crossers specifically or illegal immigrants generally.

Indeed, this appears to be the case even for the most high-profile cases. Aaron Reichlin-Melnick of the American Immigration Council analyzed every Customs and Border Protection press release mentioning fentanyl over a 6-month period and found just 3 percent involved illegal immigrants. This means that the agency itself believes the most important smugglers are U.S. citizens. U.S. CITIZENS BRING FENTANYL THROUGH LEGAL CROSSING POINTS

That U.S. citizens account for most fentanyl trafficking convictions is not surprising given the location of fentanyl border seizures. Over 90 percent of fentanyl border seizures occur at legal border crossings and interior vehicle checkpoints (and 91 percent of drug seizures at checkpoints are from U.S. citizens—only 4 percent by “potentially removable” immigrants). In 2022, so far, Border Patrol agents who were not at vehicle checkpoints accounted for just 9 percent of the fentanyl seizures near the border (Figure 2). Since it is easier for U.S. citizens to cross legally than noncitizens, it makes sense for fentanyl producers to hire U.S. citizen smugglers.

The DEA reports that criminal organizations “exploit major highway routes for transportation, and the most common method employed involves smuggling illicit drugs through U.S. [ports of entry] in passenger vehicles with concealed compartments or commingled with legitimate goods on tractor-trailers.” Several agencies including CBP, ICE, and DHS intelligence told Congress in May 2022 the same thing: hard drugs come through ports of entry.

Some people posit that less fentanyl is interdicted between ports of entry because it is more difficult to detect there. But the opposite is true: fentanyl is smuggled through official crossing points specifically because it is easier to conceal it on a legal traveler or in legal goods than it is to conceal a person crossing the border illegally. Customs and Border Protection estimates that it caught 2 percent of cocaine at southwest land ports of entry in 2020 (the only drug it analyzed), while it estimated that its interdiction effectiveness rate for illegal crossers was about 83 percent in 2021 (Figure 3). This means that drugs coming at a port of entry are about 97 percent less likely to be interdicted than a person coming between ports of entry, and this massive incentive to smuggle through ports would remain even if Border Patrol was far less effective at stopping people crossing illegally than it now estimates that it is.

CLOSING PORTS INCREASED FENTANYL SMUGGLING

During the early days of the pandemic, the Trump administration drastically restricted legal travel to the United States, banning nonessential travel through land ports of entry from Mexico in particular in late-March 2020. Because there were fewer opportunities to traffic drugs at ports of entry, traffickers switched to trafficking more fentanyl. Because fentanyl is at least 50 times more potent per pound than heroin and other drugs, smugglers need fewer trips to supply the same market. The seizure data demonstrate the change in tactics. From Oc-

tober 2018 to February 2020, about a third of fentanyl and heroin seizures at southwest ports of entry were fentanyl with no clear upward trend. By the time the travel restrictions were ended (at least for vaccinated travelers) in January 2022, over 90 percent of heroin-fentanyl seizures were fentanyl. Unfortunately, the market shift has continued. The absolute amount of fentanyl being seized quadrupled (Figure 4).

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reported that in mid-2020, as a result of travel restrictions, “Many countries have reported drug shortages at the retail level, with reports of heroin shortages in Europe, South-West Asia and North America in particular” and that “heroin users may switch to substances such as fentanyl.” The DEA predicted in 2020 that “additional restrictions or limits on travel across the U.S.-Mexico border due to pandemic concerns will likely impact heroin DTOs [drug trafficking organizations], particularly those using couriers or personal vehicles to smuggle heroin into the United States,” leading to “mixing fentanyl into distributed heroin.”

Unsurprisingly, the increased reliance on fentanyl has increased fentanyl deaths. Indeed, it appears that the border closures rapidly accelerated the transition from heroin to fentanyl, leading to tens of thousands of additional deaths per year (Figure 5). Note that 2021 data undercount the true number of deaths because not all locations have reported. Nonetheless, the annual number of fentanyl deaths have nearly doubled between 2019 and 2021. Banning asylum under Title 42 of the U.S. code probably had no effect on these trends, but it certainly did not help reduce fentanyl deaths, as some have claimed.

ASYLUM SEEKERS DON'T AID FENTANYL SMUGGLING

Fentanyl smuggling is not a reason to end asylum. The people arrested by Border Patrol are not smuggling fentanyl. Just 279 of 1.8 million arrests by Border Patrol of illegal border crossers resulted in a fentanyl seizure—too small of a percentage (0.02 percent) to appear on a graph—and many of these seizures occurred at vehicle checkpoints of legal travelers in the interior of the United States.

Nonetheless, some officials have asserted that asylum seekers distract Border Patrol from drug interdiction efforts. If asylum seekers were indirectly aiding drug smuggling, however, we would expect the effect to show up in the seizure trends by changing the locations, times, or amounts of the seizures in some way. But drug seizure trends simply do not deviate measurably with greater arrests of asylum seekers. This is true on several different metrics: across time, between sectors, along mile-distance from the border, or the share of seizures at ports of entry versus between them. If the administration legalized asylum at ports of entry, even this hypothetical problem would disappear.

AGGRESSIVE DRUG INTERDICTION EXACERBATES FENTANYL SMUGGLING

The fentanyl problem is a direct consequence of drug prohibition and interdiction. As my colleague Dr. Jeff Singer has written:

“Fentanyl’s appearance in the underground drug trade is an excellent example of the ‘iron law of prohibition:’ when alcohol or drugs are prohibited they will tend to get produced in more concentrated forms, because they take up less space and weight in transporting and reap more money when subdivided for sale.”

Fentanyl is at least 50 times more powerful per pound than heroin, which means you have to smuggle nearly 50 pounds of heroin to supply the market that a single pound of

fentanyl could. This is a massive incentive to smuggle fentanyl, and the more efforts are made to restrict the drug trade, the more fentanyl will be the drug that is smuggled. The DEA has even admitted, “The low cost, high potency, and ease of acquisition of fentanyl may encourage heroin users to switch to the drug should future heroin supplies be disrupted.” in other words, heroin interdiction makes the fentanyl problem worse.

CONCLUSION

Border enforcement will not stop fentanyl smuggling. Border Patrol’s experience with marijuana smuggling may provide even clearer evidence for this fact. Marijuana is the bulkiest and easiest-to-detect drug, which is why it was largely trafficked between ports of entry. Despite doubling the Border Patrol and building a border fence in the 2000s in part to combat the trade, the only thing that actually reduced marijuana smuggling was U.S. states legalizing marijuana. It is absurd to believe that interdiction will be more effective against a drug that is orders of magnitude more difficult to detect.

The DEA plainly stated in 2020 that fentanyl “will likely continue to contribute to high numbers of drug overdose deaths in the United States” even with the ban on asylum and travel restrictions. But ending asylum or banning travel has been worse than useless. These policies are both directly and indirectly counterproductive: first directly by incentivizing more fentanyl smuggling and then indirectly by distracting from the true causes of the crisis.

My colleagues have been warning for many years that doubling down on these failed prohibition policies will lead to even worse outcomes, and unfortunately, time has repeatedly proven them correct. The only appropriate response to the opioid epidemic is treatment of addiction. But for this to be possible, the government must adopt policies that facilitate treatment and reduce the harms from addiction—most importantly deaths. To develop these policies, policymakers need to ignore the calls to blame foreigners for our problems.

Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. Speaker, I will say to my friend from Indiana, my Republican friends now own this issue. The majority had a chance to do something, and my friends on the other side chose to not do anything. My colleagues chose to follow the orders of Donald Trump.

Let me read to you the quote from Oklahoma’s own senior Senator, JAMES LANKFORD, and he said this on FOX News. He said: “Are we, as Republicans, going to have press conferences and complain the border is bad and then intentionally leave it open?” That is exactly what House Republicans are doing, complain, complain, complain, and then say, no, no, no, we don’t actually want to do anything about the border. We just want to complain.

Again, let me read that one more time. This is Senator LANKFORD, the second most conservative Member of the United States Senate, who said: “Are we, as Republicans, going to have press conferences and complain that the border is bad and then intentionally leave it open?” That is exactly what House Republicans are doing, complain, complain, complain, and then they say, no, no, no, we don’t actually want to do anything about the border. They just want to complain.

Senator TILLIS, hardly a progressive, who had been working on this deal, called on House Republicans as well, and he said: “Don’t pretend that the policy,” meaning the policy they negotiated, “isn’t strong. If you want to admit you’re just afraid to tell President Trump the truth, that’s fine.” But for you to take a look at this framework and say it is a half measure, you are not paying attention, or you are not telling the truth.

Mr. Speaker, again, this issue now is wholly owned by my Republican friends, and every opportunity to try to do something, from rejecting President Biden’s request for additional funding for border security to telling the Senate that any border security bill is dead on arrival, that is now with you, and so my friends on the other side own this.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are again reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I just have two words to say. H.R. 2, we passed that 8 months ago. That was the Secure the Border Act. The Democrats own that. Mr. Speaker, 211 Democrats voted against that legislation.

I would also note that, since Joe Biden took office, we have had record numbers of crossings. There has been 7.5 million people who have crossed into the United States illegally and been paroled into the United States under Joe Biden’s watch, and that has been going on for 3 years under the Biden administration. Therefore, it is not Republicans that own this issue, but it is Democrats.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Indiana for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues want to, as I said before, hide behind the Senate legislation to try to suggest that House Republicans are not addressing the issue. Well, everybody who has been paying attention to the issue knows that we did, in fact, pass legislation just under a year ago that directly addresses the issues that are plaguing American citizens on a daily basis. This is a real issue.

Again, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to gloss over the real impact, not just on Texans, but as the folks that I met with in San Diego last week, what is happening to them and what is happening to their schools, what is happening to their jails, what is happening to their communities; and the people in Texas who have spent \$12.5 billion to try to deal with border security—now having some success, by the way—doing our part to try to hold the line in Texas.

We are seeing the flow of the cartels moving into Arizona and California, which is no great thing for the country, but it is at least trying to relieve the pressure on Texas.

Also, the number of ranches, the number of people that I deal with all the time, but also the migrants. We just gloss over the little girls being sold into the sex trafficking trade. We gloss over the family in a stash house that my friend, who is a Federal judge, had to throw the book at somebody who was using this mom and her daughter to hold for a ransom of \$25,000 against somebody who was here illegally in Baltimore. This is happening every day in our country.

I-35 and I-10, the intersection in San Antonio, which I represent, is a main thoroughfare of this trafficking of human beings, and this is all happening on the watch of the executive.

My colleagues want to try to pin the failure of open borders on a Congress for failing to give, what, more legislation and tools to a President who has the tools to do what is necessary to secure the border?

President Biden could deal with the border right now—everybody knows that—by enforcing the law, by enforcing existing law, law that requires detention, law that requires that you detain people who come to the United States, who—because we are a people who want to give people some sort of chance if they are dealing with a claim for asylum because they fear political persecution or religious persecution—have to make that claim. However, most Americans believe that we detain, adjudicate the claim, determine if it is legitimate, and do not allow our government, our executive branch, our President, to make a mockery of the laws by using parole and asylum authority to flood the American people with millions of people. We know this to be true.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have literally no defense to the reality that millions have been released into the United States. Millions have been flooded into our communities, our schools, our hospitals.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle just kind of smugly smirk at what we have to deal with in Texas, what sheriffs have to deal with in Texas, what we have to deal with in our schools, in our communities, when we have to find the dead bodies of migrants on our ranches, because that is what happens.

Is the President of the United States going to sit up there tomorrow night and talk about the dead migrants that we find on ranches in Texas? Is he going to have the nerve to do that, or talk about the 53 migrants who died in a tractor-trailer in San Antonio last year in the Texas heat? Is he going to have the nerve to do that? No, because they are his policies, his choices to ignore the law.

My Democratic colleagues want to somehow say that it is on the majority when we passed legislation to try to force the President to do what his job is and his duty under the Constitution. They have the temerity to try to say it is on the majority when it is, in fact,

our Democratic colleagues who refuse to actually hold the executive branch accountable, as is required under the Constitution under separation of powers.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, let me say two things. First of all, yelling doesn’t solve the problem; and, two, nobody on this side of the aisle is glossing over this issue.

I have just spent the last 30 minutes telling my colleagues how ridiculous the legislation my Republican friends are bringing to the floor is and complaining about the fact that, every chance my colleagues get to fix the problem, my friends on the other side choose not to.

By the way, it wasn’t my words that I was quoting. It was Republican Members of the Senate, impeccably conservative Senator LANKFORD, Senator MCCONNELL, Senator TILLIS. It was my Republican colleagues.

I get it. My friend is now making it clear. It is either his way, or the highway. Well, that is not a good attitude to have when you are in a divided government, but if that is what it is, that is what it is.

I remind my Republican colleagues when they keep on bringing up their vaunted H.R. 2—by the way, I will say to the gentlewoman from Indiana, I think that is more than two words—last week, Senator CRUZ from Texas basically had an amendment to the CR to bring up H.R. 2, their bill, their solution. It got 32 votes—32 votes. That is less than a third of the Senate.

I don’t know about my colleagues, but I think that is a pretty good indication that H.R. 2 isn’t going anywhere. It is dead. Therefore, maybe we ought to come together and figure out what we can do together. For the life of me, I don’t understand why Republicans are reluctant to do that.

This is not a debate club. It is not supposed to be a debate club. This is supposed to be a place where we solve problems and pass legislation to help protect and defend this country. Instead, all we get treated to are press release bills, MAGA bills, yelling and screaming and whatever, but never, never, never a solution.

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

□ 1300

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 8¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, despite the very real domestic and global challenges facing our Nation, House Republicans have chosen to waste time on sham impeachments, silly censures, and extreme policies that will never become law, and the two bills that this rule would bring to the floor, they fall into that category.

This is not serious legislating by any measure. Democrats have come to the

table with real solutions on the border, real solutions on immigration, and instead what we get is garbage like this.

I have said it before and I will say it again: Republicans own this issue. Their side owns this. They own the border. They own the fentanyl crisis. They own all of it because they repeatedly reject our attempts to work together. That is both on border security and nearly everything else that has been brought up in this Congress.

Because of that, because Republicans absolutely refuse to work with House Democrats, the Democratic majority in the Senate or the Democratic-held White House, because House Republican leadership continues to bow down to the most fringe, MAGA Members of their ultraslim majority, this body no longer functions under regular order.

In fact, we don't function. This is not functioning. The last bill to become law that came through the Rules Committee was 9 months ago.

Let me repeat that: The last bill to become law that came through the Rules Committee was 9 months ago. House Republican leadership has lost six rule votes since January 2023, and every week there is a legitimate question of whether Republicans even have the votes to pass their own rules and bills.

I have never seen such dysfunction. I have never seen such incompetence. House Democrats have rescued this failing House Republican majority at nearly every turn. Last year, House Democrats ensured that the U.S. didn't default on its debt. That was a big deal because if we didn't help, we would have defaulted on our debt.

House Democrats have kept the government running, despite GOP leadership wasting time pursuing unrealistic draconian spending cuts. It has been our votes that have kept the lights on since September.

We believe in governing. We believe that shutting the government down is a bad, terrible, awful idea. House Democrats have advocated time and time again for viable solutions that tackle the important issues the Americans most care about, but—and here is the sad thing—Republicans would rather play partisan politics like politicizing this horrific crime than do anything to actually keep our country safe.

There is an opportunity here. The stars are aligned. Conservative Republicans are working with moderate and progressive Democrats and working with the President of the United States to try to come to some sort of a compromise that will make a difference, and the response by the House Republicans is forget about it, my way or the highway. No. Donald Trump says we need the issue. Don't ever come up with a solution. Don't solve problems. Let's just keep the issue. Let's keep the press releases coming. Let's continue to exploit tragedy after tragedy after tragedy. Enough.

Again, this is not a debate club; this is the United States House of Rep-

resentatives, and all of us, Democrats and Republicans, have an obligation to do our job, to make sure we keep the government running, to make sure we are solving problems.

I plead with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join with us and with the conservative Republicans in the Senate. Let's do something, but instead we have got this. How pathetic.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this rule, "no" on the previous question, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we have before us the opportunity to move legislation that could unleash growth and increase prosperity for Americans across the country in the Expanding Access to Capital Act. This bill empowers Americans with the tools they need to grow their small businesses and secure their financial futures.

We need to focus on initiatives that strengthen our economy and combat inflation. However, time and time again, this administration's policies seem to hinder rather than facilitate business in America and it defies logic.

In contrast, this legislation streamlines regulations, expands opportunities for economic growth, and enables more Americans to invest in their future.

Turning to H.R. 7511, the Laken Riley Act, it aims to strengthen our immigration laws.

In H.R. 7511, we mourn the death and honor the life and memory of Laken Riley and other victims of the Biden administration's open-border policies, and we denounce President Biden's open-border policies.

We are not politicizing. This is a response to a tragedy in the hope that we would prevent a similar tragedy moving forward. No family should have to endure what Laken's family has experienced. We owe it to Laken's parents and parents nationwide to ensure something like this never happens again.

This border crisis is real. It has devastating consequences. Laken's story is sadly not unique. As the Speaker has documented, there are over 100 stories across the country just like Laken's.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the House can speak with one voice on this bill and together do what the American people have been asking us to do, which is secure the border and institute policies that will protect Americans and American families.

I look forward to moving these bills out of the House this week, and I ask my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1052 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the

consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 12) to protect a person's ability to determine whether to continue or end a pregnancy, and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide abortion services. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 12.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1061) providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4366, with an amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1061

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the bill, H.R. 4366, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to have concurred in the Senate amendment with the following amendment:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.

Sec. 5. Statement of appropriations.

Sec. 6. Availability of funds.

DIVISION A—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Department of Defense

Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs

Title III—Related Agencies

Title IV—General Provisions

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Agricultural Programs

Title II—Farm Production and Conservation Programs

Title III—Rural Development Programs

Title IV—Domestic Food Programs

Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs

Title VI—Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration

Title VII—General Provisions

DIVISION C—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Department of Commerce

Title II—Department of Justice

Title III—Science

Title IV—Related Agencies

Title V—General Provisions

DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Corps of Engineers—Civil

Title II—Department of the Interior

Title III—Department of Energy

Title IV—Independent Agencies

Title V—General Provisions

DIVISION E—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Department of the Interior

Title II—Environmental Protection Agency

Title III—Related Agencies

Title IV—General Provisions

DIVISION F—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Title I—Department of Transportation

Title II—Department of Housing and Urban Development

Title III—Related Agencies

Title IV—General Provisions—This Act

DIVISION G—OTHER MATTERS

Title I—Health and Human Services

Title II—Amending Compacts of Free Association

Title III—Extensions and Other Matters

Title IV—Budgetary Effects

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

SEC. 4. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this Act, printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record on or about March 5, 2024, and submitted by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions A through F of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as an emergency requirement pur-

suant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or repurposed, rescinded, or transferred, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

DIVISION A—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Army as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Army Corps of Engineers and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, and for construction and operation of facilities in support of the functions of the Commander in Chief, \$2,022,775,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$398,145,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, architect and engineer services, and host nation support, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Army determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$522,220,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Army” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, \$5,531,369,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$711,505,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$335,563,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force as currently authorized by law, \$2,741,424,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$567,874,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer

services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Air Force determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$193,610,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Air Force” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, installations, facilities, and real property for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as currently authorized by law, \$3,161,782,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That such amounts of this appropriation as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to such appropriations of the Department of Defense available for military construction or family housing as the Secretary may designate, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided further*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$347,545,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of Defense determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$36,100,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Defense-Wide” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$620,647,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$79,221,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Army National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$270,461,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Army National Guard” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities

for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$295,526,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$68,454,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Director of the Air National Guard determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$123,804,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Air National Guard" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$151,076,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$27,389,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Army Reserve determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$44,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Army Reserve" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$51,291,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$6,495,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Secretary of the Navy determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air Force Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$331,572,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$14,646,000 shall be available for study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services, as authorized by law, unless the Chief of the Air Force Reserve determines that additional obligations are necessary for such purposes and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both

Houses of Congress of the determination and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$40,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Air Force Reserve" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

For the United States share of the cost of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$293,434,000, to remain available until expended.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT

For deposit into the Department of Defense Base Closure Account, established by section 2906(a) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (10 U.S.C. 2687 note), \$489,174,000, to remain available until expended.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$304,895,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$395,485,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$277,142,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For expenses of family housing for the Navy and Marine Corps for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$373,854,000.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$237,097,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses of family housing for the Air Force for operation and maintenance, including debt payment, leasing, minor construction, principal and interest charges, and insurance premiums, as authorized by law, \$324,386,000.

FAMILY HOUSING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of family housing for the activities and agencies of the Department of

Defense (other than the military departments) for operation and maintenance, leasing, and minor construction, as authorized by law, \$50,785,000.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, \$6,611,000, to remain available until expended, for family housing initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, providing alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing and supporting facilities.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund, \$496,000, to remain available until expended, for unaccompanied housing initiatives undertaken pursuant to section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, providing alternative means of acquiring and improving military unaccompanied housing and supporting facilities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this title shall be expended for payments under a cost-plus-a-fixed-fee contract for construction, where cost estimates exceed \$25,000, to be performed within the United States, except Alaska, without the specific approval in writing of the Secretary of Defense setting forth the reasons therefor.

SEC. 102. Funds made available in this title for construction shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 103. Funds made available in this title for construction may be used for advances to the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, for the construction of access roads as authorized by section 210 of title 23, United States Code, when projects authorized therein are certified as important to the national defense by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to begin construction of new bases in the United States for which specific appropriations have not been made.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for purchase of land or land easements in excess of 100 percent of the value as determined by the Army Corps of Engineers or the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, except: (1) where there is a determination of value by a Federal court; (2) purchases negotiated by the Attorney General or the designee of the Attorney General; (3) where the estimated value is less than \$25,000; or (4) as otherwise determined by the Secretary of Defense to be in the public interest.

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used to: (1) acquire land; (2) provide for site preparation; or (3) install utilities for any family housing, except housing for which funds have been made available in annual Acts making appropriations for military construction.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available in this title for minor construction may be used to transfer or relocate any activity from one base or installation to another, without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this title may be used for the procurement of steel for any construction project or activity for which American steel producers, fabricators, and manufacturers have been denied the opportunity to compete for such steel procurement.

SEC. 109. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for military construction or family housing during the current fiscal year may be used to pay real property taxes in any foreign nation.

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to initiate a new installation overseas without prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated for architect and engineer contracts estimated by the Government to exceed \$500,000 for projects to be accomplished in Japan, in any North Atlantic Treaty Organization member country, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, unless such contracts are awarded to United States firms or United States firms in joint venture with host nation firms.

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this title for military construction in the United States territories and possessions in the Pacific and on Kwajalein Atoll, or in countries bordering the Arabian Gulf, may be used to award any contract estimated by the Government to exceed \$1,000,000 to a foreign contractor: *Provided*, That this section shall not be applicable to contract awards for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a United States contractor exceeds the lowest responsive and responsible bid of a foreign contractor by greater than 20 percent: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to contract awards for military construction on Kwajalein Atoll for which the lowest responsive and responsible bid is submitted by a Marshallese contractor.

SEC. 113. The Secretary of Defense shall inform the appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress, including the Committees on Appropriations, of plans and scope of any proposed military exercise involving United States personnel 30 days prior to its occurring, if amounts expended for construction, either temporary or permanent, are anticipated to exceed \$100,000.

SEC. 114. Funds appropriated to the Department of Defense for construction in prior years shall be available for construction authorized for each such military department by the authorizations enacted into law during the current session of Congress.

SEC. 115. For military construction or family housing projects that are being completed with funds otherwise expired or lapsed for obligation, expired or lapsed funds may be used to pay the cost of associated supervision, inspection, overhead, engineering and design on those projects and on subsequent claims, if any.

SEC. 116. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds made available to a military department or defense agency for the construction of military projects may be obligated for a military construction project or contract, or for any portion of such a project or contract, at any time before the end of the fourth fiscal year after the fiscal year for which funds for such project were made available, if the funds obligated for such project: (1) are obligated from funds available for military construction projects; and (2) do not exceed the amount appropriated for such project, plus any amount by which the cost of such project is increased pursuant to law.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 117. Subject to 30 days prior notification, or 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, such additional amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense may be transferred to: (1) the De-

partment of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction in "Family Housing" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund; or (2) the Department of Defense Military Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund from amounts appropriated for construction of military unaccompanied housing in "Military Construction" accounts, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same period of time as amounts appropriated directly to the Fund: *Provided*, That appropriations made available to the Funds shall be available to cover the costs, as defined in section 502(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of direct loans or loan guarantees issued by the Department of Defense pursuant to the provisions of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, pertaining to alternative means of acquiring and improving military family housing, military unaccompanied housing, and supporting facilities.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 118. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense, amounts may be transferred from the Department of Defense Base Closure Account to the fund established by section 1013(d) of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 3374) to pay for expenses associated with the Homeowners Assistance Program incurred under 42 U.S.C. 3374(a)(1)(A). Any amounts transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the fund to which transferred.

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title for operation and maintenance of family housing shall be the exclusive source of funds for repair and maintenance of all family housing units, including general or flag officer quarters: *Provided*, That not more than \$35,000 per unit may be spent annually for the maintenance and repair of any general or flag officer quarters without 30 days prior notification, or 14 days for a notification provided in an electronic medium pursuant to sections 480 and 2883 of title 10, United States Code, to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, except that an after-the-fact notification shall be submitted if the limitation is exceeded solely due to costs associated with environmental remediation that could not be reasonably anticipated at the time of the budget submission: *Provided further*, That the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is to report annually to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress all operation and maintenance expenditures for each individual general or flag officer quarters for the prior fiscal year.

SEC. 120. Amounts contained in the Ford Island Improvement Account established by subsection (h) of section 2814 of title 10, United States Code, are appropriated and shall be available until expended for the purposes specified in subsection (i)(1) of such section or until transferred pursuant to subsection (i)(3) of such section.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 121. During the 5-year period after appropriations available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military construction and family housing operation and maintenance and construction have expired for obligation, upon a determination that such appropriations will not be necessary for the liquidation of obligations or for making authorized adjustments to such appropriations for obligations incurred during the period of availability of such appropriations, unobli-

gated balances of such appropriations may be transferred into the appropriation "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Construction, Defense", to be merged with and to be available for the same time period and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 122. Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in an account funded under the headings in this title may be transferred among projects and activities within the account in accordance with the reprogramming guidelines for military construction and family housing construction contained in Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation 7000.14-R, Volume 3, Chapter 7, of April 2021, as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 123. None of the funds made available in this title may be obligated or expended for planning and design and construction of projects at Arlington National Cemetery.

SEC. 124. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

"Military Construction, Army", \$8,214,000;
 "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", \$182,150,000;
 "Military Construction, Air Force", \$166,300,000;
 "Military Construction, Defense-Wide", \$62,400,000;
 "Military Construction, Army National Guard", \$66,815,000;
 "Military Construction, Air National Guard", \$5,200,000; and
 "Military Construction, Army Reserve", \$23,000,000;

Provided, That such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction and cost to complete projects identified in the respective military department's unfunded priority list for fiscal year 2024 submitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That such projects are subject to authorization prior to obligation and expenditure of funds to carry out construction: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 125. All amounts appropriated to the "Department of Defense—Military Construction, Army", "Department of Defense—Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", "Department of Defense—Military Construction, Air Force", and "Department of Defense—Military Construction, Defense-Wide" accounts pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in a National Defense Authorization Act specified for fiscal year 2024 in the funding table in section 4601 of that Act shall be immediately available and allotted to contract for the full scope of authorized projects.

SEC. 126. Notwithstanding section 116 of this Act, funds made available in this Act or any available unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts may be obligated before October 1, 2025 for fiscal year 2017, 2018, and 2019 military construction projects for which project authorization has not lapsed or for which authorization is extended for fiscal year 2024 by a National Defense Authorization Act: *Provided*, That no amounts may be obligated pursuant to this section from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 127. For the purposes of this Act, the term "congressional defense committees" means the Committees on Armed Services of

the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 128. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for planning and design and unspecified minor construction, for improving military installation resilience, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

“Military Construction, Army”, \$15,000,000;
“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$7,500,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$7,500,000;

Provided, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 129. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for planning and design and unspecified minor construction for construction improvements to Department of Defense laboratory facilities, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

“Military Construction, Army”, \$10,000,000;

“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$10,000,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$10,000,000;

Provided, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 130. For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Air Force”, \$150,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for expenses incurred as a result of natural disasters: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 131. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for planning and design for child development centers, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

“Military Construction, Army”, \$15,000,000;
“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$15,000,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$15,000,000;

Provided, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 132. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for planning and design, for barracks, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

“Military Construction, Army”, \$15,000,000;

“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$15,000,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$15,000,000;

Provided, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 133. For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Air Force”, \$16,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for cost increases identified subsequent to the fiscal year 2024 budget request for authorized major construction projects: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 134. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for unspecified minor construction for demolition, to remain available until September 30, 2028:

“Military Construction, Army”, \$15,000,000;

“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$15,000,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$15,000,000;

Provided, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the military department concerned, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military department concerned may not obligate or expend any funds prior to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the expenditure plan required by this section.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 135. Of the proceeds credited to the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund pursuant to subsection (c)(1)(D) of section 2883 of title 10, United States Code, pursuant to a Department of Navy investment, the Secretary of Defense shall transfer \$19,000,000 to the Secretary of the Navy under paragraph (3) of subsection (d) of such section for use by the Secretary of the Navy as provided in paragraph (1) of such subsection until expended.

SEC. 136. For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Defense-Wide”, \$37,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction projects specified in a National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2024 in the funding table in section 4601 of that Act: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 137. For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Air National Guard”, \$83,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for planning and design and authorized major construction projects at future foreign military training sites: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, or their designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds provided under this section.

SEC. 138. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the closure or realignment of the United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation benefits to or on behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability examinations as author-

ized by section 107 and chapters 11, 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code; and burial benefits, the Reinstated Entitlement Program for Survivors, emergency and other officers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under the provisions of title IV of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 541 et seq.) and for other benefits as authorized by sections 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, and chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$15,072,388,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2023, to remain available until expended; and, in addition, \$182,310,515,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$22,109,000 of the amount made available for fiscal year 2025 under this heading shall be reimbursed to “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”, and “Information Technology Systems” for necessary expenses in implementing the provisions of chapters 51, 53, and 55 of title 38, United States Code, the funding source for which is specifically provided as the “Compensation and Pensions” appropriation: *Provided further*, That such sums as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis, shall be reimbursed to “Medical Care Collections Fund” to augment the funding of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by chapters 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$374,852,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2023, to remain available until expended; and, in addition, \$13,399,805,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That expenses for rehabilitation program services and assistance which the Secretary is authorized to provide under subsection (a) of section 3104 of title 38, United States Code, other than under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of that subsection, shall be charged to this account.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

For military and naval insurance, national service life insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled veterans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as authorized by chapters 19 and 21 of title 38, United States Code, \$12,701,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2023, to remain available until expended; and, in addition, \$135,119,422, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, to remain available until expended.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized by subchapters I through III of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That, during fiscal year 2024, within the resources available, not to exceed \$500,000 in gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$316,742,419.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$78,337, as authorized by chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$2,026,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$460,698, which may be paid to the appropriation for "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration".

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, \$2,718,546.

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES, VETERANS
BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary operating expenses of the Veterans Benefits Administration, not otherwise provided for, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, and reimbursement of the Department of Defense for the cost of overseas employee mail, \$3,899,000,000: *Provided*, That expenses for services and assistance authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), (5), and (11) of section 3104(a) of title 38, United States Code, that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines are necessary to enable entitled veterans: (1) to the maximum extent feasible, to become employable and to obtain and maintain suitable employment; or (2) to achieve maximum independence in daily living, shall be charged to this account: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
MEDICAL SERVICES

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs and veterans described in section 1705(a) of title 38, United States Code, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department, and including medical supplies and equipment, bioengineering services, food services, and salaries and expenses of healthcare employees hired under title 38, United States Code, assistance and support services for caregivers as authorized by section 1720G of title 38, United States Code, loan repayments authorized by section 604 of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-163; 124 Stat. 1174; 38 U.S.C. 7681 note), monthly assistance allowances authorized by section 322(d) of title 38, United States Code, grants authorized by section 521A of title 38, United States Code, and administrative expenses necessary to carry out sections 322(d) and 521A of title 38, United States Code, and hospital care and medical services authorized by section 1787 of title 38, United States Code; \$71,000,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2024, under this heading, \$2,000,000,000 shall remain available until

September 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That of the \$74,004,000,000 that became available on October 1, 2023, previously appropriated under this heading in division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$3,034,205,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish a priority for the provision of medical treatment for veterans who have service-connected disabilities, lower income, or have special needs: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall give priority funding for the provision of basic medical benefits to veterans in enrollment priority groups 1 through 6: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based on requirements established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the implementation of the program described in the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that sufficient amounts appropriated under this heading for medical supplies and equipment are available for the acquisition of prosthetics designed specifically for female veterans: *Provided further*, That nothing in section 2044(e) of title 38, United States Code, may be construed as limiting amounts that may be made available under this heading for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 in this or prior Acts.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY CARE
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for furnishing health care to individuals pursuant to chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, at non-Department facilities, \$20,382,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2024, under this heading, \$2,000,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That of the \$33,000,000,000 that became available on October 1, 2023, previously appropriated under this heading in division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$2,657,977,000 is hereby rescinded.

MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses in the administration of the medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; administrative expenses in support of capital policy activities; and administrative and legal expenses of the Department for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department as authorized under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.), \$11,800,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2024, under this heading, \$350,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That of the \$12,300,000,000 that became available on October 1, 2023, previously appropriated under this heading in division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$1,550,000,000 is hereby rescinded.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing

homes, domiciliary facilities, and other necessary facilities of the Veterans Health Administration; for administrative expenses in support of planning, design, project management, real property acquisition and disposition, construction, and renovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department; for oversight, engineering, and architectural activities not charged to project costs; for repairing, altering, improving, or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary employees and purchase of materials; for leases of facilities; and for laundry services; \$149,485,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2023; and, in addition, \$9,400,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2024, under this heading, \$500,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of medical and prosthetic research and development as authorized by chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, \$943,000,000, plus reimbursements, shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that sufficient amounts appropriated under this heading are available for prosthetic research specifically for female veterans, and for toxic exposure research.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses of the National Cemetery Administration for operations and maintenance, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; cemeterial expenses as authorized by law; purchase of one passenger motor vehicle for use in cemeterial operations; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and repair, alteration or improvement of facilities under the jurisdiction of the National Cemetery Administration, \$480,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary operating expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including administrative expenses in support of Department-wide capital planning, management and policy activities, uniforms, or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official reception and representation expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, \$475,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be transferred to "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration".

BOARD OF VETERANS APPEALS

For necessary operating expenses of the Board of Veterans Appeals, \$287,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for information technology systems and telecommunications support, including developmental information systems and operational information systems; for pay and associated costs; and for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said

acquisitions, including contractual costs associated with operations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$6,401,000,000, plus reimbursements: *Provided*, That \$1,606,977,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of which not to exceed 3 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That \$4,668,373,000 shall be for operations and maintenance, of which not to exceed 5 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$75,288,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, for the purpose of facility activities related to projects funded by the “Construction, Major Projects”, “Construction, Minor Projects”, “Medical Facilities”, “National Cemetery Administration”, “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”, and “General Administration” accounts: *Provided further*, That \$125,650,000 shall be for information technology systems development, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for salaries and expenses, operations and maintenance, and information technology systems development may be transferred among the three subaccounts after the Secretary of Veterans Affairs requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for the “Information Technology Systems” account for development may be transferred among projects or to newly defined projects: *Provided further*, That no project may be increased or decreased by more than \$3,000,000 of cost prior to submitting a request to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to make the transfer and an approval is issued, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading for information technology systems development shall be for the projects, and in the amounts, specified under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

VETERANS ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

For activities related to implementation, preparation, development, interface, management, rollout, and maintenance of a Veterans Electronic Health Record system, including contractual costs associated with operations authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and salaries and expenses of employees hired under titles 5 and 38, United States Code, \$1,334,142,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress quarterly reports detailing obligations, expenditures, and deployment implementation by facility, including any changes from the deployment plan or schedule: *Provided further*, That the funds provided in this account shall only be available to the Office of the Deputy Secretary, to be administered by that Office: *Provided further*, That 25 percent of the funds made available under this heading shall not be available until July 1, 2024, and are contingent upon the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—

(1) providing the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report, no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act on the status of issues that caused the delayed deployment of the new electronic health record to additional sites that was announced on April 21, 2023;

(2) providing the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the reset process as of June 1, 2024, including an outline of the measurable operational

metrics that will be used to determine when it is appropriate to re-start deployments, progress on achieving those metrics, progress toward clinical and product standardization, and the current performance at all Department of Veterans Affairs facilities using the new electronic health record on or before September 2023 compared to pre-deployment baselines for metrics impacted by the deployment of the new electronic health record; and

(3) certifying in writing no later than 30 days prior to July 1, 2024, whether the system is stable, ready, and optimized for further deployment at VA sites, and if not, an estimate of the timeline required to begin further deployments.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, to include information technology, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$296,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code, not otherwise provided for, including planning, architectural and engineering services, construction management services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, \$961,218,560, of which \$453,314,560 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and of which \$507,904,000 shall remain available until expended, of which \$110,000,000 shall be available for seismic improvement projects and seismic program management activities, including for projects that would otherwise be funded by the Construction, Minor Projects, Medical Facilities or National Cemetery Administration accounts: *Provided*, That except for advance planning activities, including needs assessments which may or may not lead to capital investments, and other capital asset management related activities, including portfolio development and management activities, and planning, cost estimating, and design for major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases and investment strategy studies funded through the advance planning fund and the planning and design activities funded through the design fund, staffing expenses, and funds provided for the purchase, security, and maintenance of land for the National Cemetery Administration and the Veterans Health Administration through the land acquisition line item, none of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for any project that has not been notified to Congress through the budgetary process or that has not been approved by the Congress through statute, joint resolution, or in the explanatory statement accompanying such Act and presented to the President at the time of enrollment: *Provided further*, That funds provided for the Veterans Health Administration through the land acquisition line item shall be only for projects included on the five year development plan notified to Congress through the budgetary process: *Provided further*, That such sums as

may be necessary shall be available to reimburse the “General Administration” account for payment of salaries and expenses of all Office of Construction and Facilities Management employees to support the full range of capital infrastructure services provided, including minor construction and leasing services: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for fiscal year 2024, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2024; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall promptly submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a written report on any approved major construction project for which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established above: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 8104(a) of title 38, United States Code, amounts made available under this heading for seismic improvement projects and seismic program management activities shall be available for the completion of both new and existing seismic projects of the Department.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities, including parking projects, under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning and assessments of needs which may lead to capital investments, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406 and chapter 81 of title 38, United States Code, not otherwise provided for, where the estimated cost of a project is equal to or less than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, \$692,000,000, of which \$612,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and of which \$80,000,000 shall remain available until expended, along with unobligated balances of previous “Construction, Minor Projects” appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of title 38, United States Code, \$171,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS CEMETERIES

For grants to assist States and tribal organizations in establishing, expanding, or improving veterans cemeteries as authorized by section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, \$60,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2024 for “Compensation and Pensions”, “Re-adjustment Benefits”, and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” may be transferred as necessary to any other of the mentioned appropriations: *Provided*, That, before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 202. Amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2024, in this or any other Act, under the “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities” accounts may be transferred among the accounts: *Provided*, That any transfers among the “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, and “Medical Support and Compliance” accounts of 1 percent or less of the total amount appropriated to the account in this or any other Act may take place subject to notification from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of the amount and purpose of the transfer: *Provided further*, That any transfers among the “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, and “Medical Support and Compliance” accounts in excess of 1 percent, or exceeding the cumulative 1 percent for the fiscal year, may take place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued: *Provided further*, That any transfers to or from the “Medical Facilities” account may take place only after the Secretary requests from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

SEC. 203. Appropriations available in this title for salaries and expenses shall be available for services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; lease of a facility or land or both; and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by sections 5901 through 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 204. No appropriations in this title (except the appropriations for “Construction, Major Projects”, and “Construction, Minor Projects”) shall be available for the purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any new hospital or home.

SEC. 205. No appropriations in this title shall be available for hospitalization or examination of any persons (except beneficiaries entitled to such hospitalization or examination under the laws providing such benefits to veterans, and persons receiving such treatment under sections 7901 through 7904 of title 5, United States Code, or the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)), unless reimbursement of the cost of such hospitalization or examination is made to the “Medical Services” account at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 206. Appropriations available in this title for “Compensation and Pensions”, “Re-adjustment Benefits”, and “Veterans Insurance and Indemnities” shall be available for payment of prior year accrued obligations required to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 2023.

SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall be available to pay prior year obli-

gations of corresponding prior year appropriations accounts resulting from sections 3328(a), 3334, and 3712(a) of title 31, United States Code, except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts they shall be payable only from “Compensation and Pensions”.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund under section 1920 of title 38, United States Code, the Veterans’ Special Life Insurance Fund under section 1923 of title 38, United States Code, and the United States Government Life Insurance Fund under section 1955 of title 38, United States Code, reimburse the “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” and “Information Technology Systems” accounts for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: *Provided*, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance program during fiscal year 2024 that are available for dividends in that program after claims have been paid and actuarially determined reserves have been set aside: *Provided further*, That if the cost of administration of such an insurance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such surplus earnings: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year 2024 which is properly allocable to the provision of each such insurance program and to the provision of any total disability income insurance included in that insurance program.

SEC. 209. Amounts deducted from enhanced-use lease proceeds to reimburse an account for expenses incurred by that account during a prior fiscal year for providing enhanced-use lease services shall be available until expended.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 210. Funds available in this title or funds for salaries and other administrative expenses shall also be available to reimburse the Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication, and the Alternative Dispute Resolution function within the Office of Human Resources and Administration for all services provided at rates which will recover actual costs but not to exceed \$145,408,000 for the Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion, \$6,960,000 for the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication, and \$7,772,000 for the Alternative Dispute Resolution function within the Office of Human Resources and Administration: *Provided*, That payments may be made in advance for services to be furnished based on estimated costs: *Provided further*, That amounts received shall be credited to the “General Administration” and “Information Technology Systems” accounts for use by the office that provided the service: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available for the Office of Resolution Management, Diversity and Inclusion under this section may be used for implementation of section 402 of division U of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) and the amendments made by such section 402.

SEC. 211. No funds of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be available for hospital care, nursing home care, or medical services provided to any person under chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, for a non-service-connected disability described in section 1729(a)(2) of such title, unless that person has disclosed to the Secretary of Vet-

erans Affairs, in such form as the Secretary may require, current, accurate third-party reimbursement information for purposes of section 1729 of such title: *Provided*, That the Secretary may recover, in the same manner as any other debt due the United States, the reasonable charges for such care or services from any person who does not make such disclosure as required: *Provided further*, That any amounts so recovered for care or services provided in a prior fiscal year may be obligated by the Secretary during the fiscal year in which amounts are received.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, proceeds or revenues derived from enhanced-use leasing activities (including disposal) may be deposited into the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor Projects” accounts and be used for construction (including site acquisition and disposition), alterations, and improvements of any medical facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Such sums as realized are in addition to the amount provided for in “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor Projects”.

SEC. 213. Amounts made available under “Medical Services” are available—

- (1) for furnishing recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment; and
- (2) for funeral expenses, burial expenses, and other expenses incidental to funerals and burials for beneficiaries receiving care in the Department.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 214. Such sums as may be deposited into the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the “Medical Services” and “Medical Community Care” accounts to remain available until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

SEC. 215. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may enter into agreements with Federally Qualified Health Centers in the State of Alaska and Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations which are party to the Alaska Native Health Compact with the Indian Health Service, to provide healthcare, including behavioral health and dental care, to veterans in rural Alaska. The Secretary shall require participating veterans and facilities to comply with all appropriate rules and regulations, as established by the Secretary. The term “rural Alaska” shall mean those lands which are not within the boundaries of the municipality of Anchorage or the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 216. Such sums as may be deposited into the Department of Veterans Affairs Capital Asset Fund pursuant to section 8118 of title 38, United States Code, may be transferred to the “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor Projects” accounts, to remain available until expended for the purposes of these accounts.

SEC. 217. Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the financial status of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the preceding quarter: *Provided*, That, at a minimum, the report shall include the direction contained in the paragraph entitled “Quarterly reporting”, under the heading “General Administration” in the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114-223.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 218. Amounts made available under the “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical Facilities”, “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”, “Board of Veterans Appeals”, “General Administration”, and “National Cemetery Administration” accounts for fiscal year 2024 may be transferred to or from the “Information Technology Systems” account: *Provided*, That such transfers may not result in a more than 10 percent aggregate increase in the total amount made available by this Act for the “Information Technology Systems” account: *Provided further*, That, before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and an approval is issued.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 219. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2024 for “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical Facilities”, “Construction, Minor Projects”, and “Information Technology Systems”, up to \$430,532,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2571) and may be used for operation of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That section 220 of title II of division J of Public Law 117-328 is repealed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 220. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs which become available on October 1, 2024, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, up to \$456,547,000, plus reimbursements, may be transferred to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2571) and may be used for operation of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That additional funds may be transferred from accounts designated in this section to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 221. Such sums as may be deposited into the Medical Care Collections Fund pursuant to section 1729A of title 38, United States Code, for healthcare provided at facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Au-

thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500) shall also be available: (1) for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund, established by section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2571); and (2) for operations of the facilities designated as combined Federal medical facilities as described by section 706 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4500): *Provided*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(b)(3) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84; 123 Stat. 2573), amounts transferred to the Joint Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund shall remain available until expended.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 222. Of the amounts available in this title for “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, a minimum of \$15,000,000 shall be transferred to the DOD-VA Health Care Sharing Incentive Fund, as authorized by section 8111(d) of title 38, United States Code, to remain available until expended, for any purpose authorized by section 8111 of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 223. None of the funds available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, in this or any other Act, may be used to replace the current system by which the Veterans Integrated Service Networks select and contract for diabetes monitoring supplies and equipment.

SEC. 224. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of all bid savings in a major construction project that total at least \$5,000,000, or 5 percent of the programmed amount of the project, whichever is less: *Provided*, That such notification shall occur within 14 days of a contract identifying the programmed amount: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 14 days prior to the obligation of such bid savings and shall describe the anticipated use of such savings.

SEC. 225. None of the funds made available for “Construction, Major Projects” may be used for a project in excess of the scope specified for that project in the original justification data provided to the Congress as part of the request for appropriations unless the Secretary of Veterans Affairs receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 226. Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report containing performance measures and data from each Veterans Benefits Administration Regional Office: *Provided*, That, at a minimum, the report shall include the direction contained in the section entitled “Disability claims backlog”, under the heading “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” in the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114-223: *Provided further*, That the report shall also include information on the number of appeals pending at the Veterans Benefits Administration as well as the Board of Veterans Appeals on a quarterly basis.

SEC. 227. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide written notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress 15 days prior to organizational changes which result in the transfer of

25 or more full-time equivalents from one organizational unit of the Department of Veterans Affairs to another.

SEC. 228. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall provide on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress notification of any single national outreach and awareness marketing campaign in which obligations exceed \$1,000,000.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 229. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon determination that such action is necessary to address needs of the Veterans Health Administration, may transfer to the “Medical Services” account any discretionary appropriations made available for fiscal year 2024 in this title (except appropriations made to the “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” account) or any discretionary unobligated balances within the Department of Veterans Affairs, including those appropriated for fiscal year 2024, that were provided in advance by appropriations Acts: *Provided*, That transfers shall be made only with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be transferred from amounts that were designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on emergent healthcare requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by Congress: *Provided further*, That, upon determination that all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back to that appropriation and shall be available for the same purposes as originally appropriated: *Provided further*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and receive approval of that request.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 230. Amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2024, under the “Board of Veterans Appeals” and the “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration” accounts may be transferred between such accounts: *Provided*, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to make the transfer and receive approval of that request.

SEC. 231. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not reprogram funds among major construction projects or programs if such instance of reprogramming will exceed \$7,000,000, unless such reprogramming is approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 232. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the toll-free suicide hotline under section 1720F(h) of title 38, United States Code—

(1) provides to individuals who contact the hotline immediate assistance from a trained professional; and

(2) adheres to all requirements of the American Association of Suicidology.

(b)(1) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce or otherwise carry out any Executive action that prohibits the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from

appointing an individual to occupy a vacant civil service position, or establishing a new civil service position, at the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to such a position relating to the hotline specified in subsection (a).

(2) In this subsection—

(A) the term “civil service” has the meaning given such term in section 2101(1) of title 5, United States Code; and

(B) the term “Executive action” includes—

(i) any Executive order, Presidential memorandum, or other action by the President; and

(ii) any agency policy, order, or other directive.

(c)(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a study on the effectiveness of the hotline specified in subsection (a) during the 5-year period beginning on January 1, 2016, based on an analysis of national suicide data and data collected from such hotline.

(2) At a minimum, the study required by paragraph (1) shall—

(A) determine the number of veterans who contact the hotline specified in subsection (a) and who receive follow up services from the hotline or mental health services from the Department of Veterans Affairs thereafter;

(B) determine the number of veterans who contact the hotline who are not referred to, or do not continue receiving, mental health care who commit suicide; and

(C) determine the number of veterans described in subparagraph (A) who commit or attempt suicide.

SEC. 233. Effective during the period beginning on October 1, 2018, and ending on January 1, 2025, none of the funds made available to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended in contravention of the “Veterans Health Administration Clinical Preventive Services Guidance Statement on the Veterans Health Administration’s Screening for Breast Cancer Guidance” published on May 10, 2017, as issued by the Veterans Health Administration National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

SEC. 234. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the “Medical Services” account may be used to provide—

(1) fertility counseling and treatment using assisted reproductive technology to a covered veteran or the spouse of a covered veteran; or

(2) adoption reimbursement to a covered veteran.

(b) In this section:

(1) The term “service-connected” has the meaning given such term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) The term “covered veteran” means a veteran, as such term is defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code, who has a service-connected disability that results in the inability of the veteran to procreate without the use of fertility treatment.

(3) The term “assisted reproductive technology” means benefits relating to reproductive assistance provided to a member of the Armed Forces who incurs a serious injury or illness on active duty pursuant to section 1074(c)(4)(A) of title 10, United States Code, as described in the memorandum on the subject of “Policy for Assisted Reproductive Services for the Benefit of Seriously or Severely Ill/Injured (Category II or III) Active Duty Service Members” issued by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on April 3, 2012, and the guidance issued to implement such policy, including any limitations on the amount of such benefits available to such a member except that—

(A) the time periods regarding embryo cryopreservation and storage set forth in

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

(B) such term includes embryo cryopreservation and storage without limitation on the duration of such cryopreservation and storage.

(4) The term “adoption reimbursement” means reimbursement for the adoption-related expenses for an adoption that is finalized after the date of the enactment of this Act under the same terms as apply under the adoption reimbursement program of the Department of Defense, as authorized in Department of Defense Instruction 1341.09, including the reimbursement limits and requirements set forth in such instruction.

(c) Amounts made available for the purposes specified in subsection (a) of this section are subject to the requirements for funds contained in section 508 of division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141).

SEC. 235. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act for the Department of Veterans Affairs may be used in a manner that is inconsistent with: (1) section 842 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-115; 119 Stat. 2506); or (2) section 8110(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 236. Section 842 of Public Law 109-115 shall not apply to conversion of an activity or function of the Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration, or National Cemetery Administration to contractor performance by a business concern that is at least 51 percent owned by one or more Indian Tribes as defined in section 5304(e) of title 25, United States Code, or one or more Native Hawaiian Organizations as defined in section 637(a)(15) of title 15, United States Code.

SEC. 237. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor, shall discontinue collecting and using Social Security account numbers to authenticate individuals in all information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs for all individuals not later than September 30, 2024.

(b) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may collect and use a Social Security account number to identify an individual, in accordance with section 552a of title 5, United States Code, in an information system of the Department of Veterans Affairs if and only if the use of such number is necessary to:

(1) obtain or provide information the Secretary requires from an information system that is not under the jurisdiction of the Secretary;

(2) comply with a law, regulation, or court order;

(3) perform anti-fraud activities; or

(4) identify a specific individual where no adequate substitute is available.

(c) The matter in subsections (a) and (b) shall supersede section 237 of division J of Public Law 117-328.

SEC. 238. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2024 and 2025 for “Medical Services”, section 239 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 239. None of the funds appropriated in this or prior appropriations Acts or otherwise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs may be used to transfer any amounts from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to any other account within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 240. Of the funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 for “Medical Services”, funds may be used in each year to

carry out and expand the child care program authorized by section 205 of Public Law 111-163, notwithstanding subsection (e) of such section.

SEC. 241. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this title may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement related to resolving a dispute or claim with an individual that would restrict in any way the individual from speaking to members of Congress or their staff on any topic not otherwise prohibited from disclosure by Federal law or required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

SEC. 242. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2024 and 2025, section 258 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 243. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), or to prevent or impede the access of the Inspector General to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to such Inspector General and expressly limits the right of access.

(b) A department or agency covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General access to all records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner.

(c) Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the establishment over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(d) Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives within 5 calendar days of any failure by any department or agency covered by this section to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 244. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in a manner that would increase wait times for veterans who seek care at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 245. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to the Veterans Health Administration may be used in fiscal year 2024 to convert any program which received specific purpose funds in fiscal year 2023 to a general purpose funded program unless the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits written notification of any such proposal to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to any such action and an approval is issued by the Committees.

SEC. 246. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2024 and 2025, section 248 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 247. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to conduct research commencing on or after the date of enactment of this Act, that uses any canine, feline, or non-human primate unless the Secretary of Veterans Affairs approves such research specifically and in writing pursuant to subsection (b).

(b)(1) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may approve the conduct of research commencing on or after the date of enactment of this Act, using canines, felines, or non-human primates if the Secretary certifies that—

(A) the scientific objectives of the research can only be met by using such canines, felines, or non-human primates and cannot be met using other animal models, in vitro models, computational models, human clinical studies, or other research alternatives;

(B) such scientific objectives are necessary to advance research benefiting veterans and are directly related to an illness or injury that is combat-related as defined by 10 U.S.C. 1413(e);

(C) the research is consistent with the revised Department of Veterans Affairs canine research policy document dated December 15, 2017, including any subsequent revisions to such document; and

(D) ethical considerations regarding minimizing the harm experienced by canines, felines, or non-human primates are included in evaluating the scientific necessity of the research.

(2) The Secretary may not delegate the authority under this subsection.

(c) If the Secretary approves any new research pursuant to subsection (b), not later than 30 days before the commencement of such research, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives a report describing—

(1) the nature of the research to be conducted using canines, felines, or non-human primates;

(2) the date on which the Secretary approved the research;

(3) the USDA pain category on the approved use;

(4) the justification for the determination of the Secretary that the scientific objectives of such research could only be met using canines, felines, or non-human primates, and methods used to make such determination;

(5) the frequency and duration of such research; and

(6) the protocols in place to ensure the necessity, safety, and efficacy of the research, and animal welfare.

(d) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to such Committees a report describing—

(1) any research being conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs using canines, felines, or non-human primates as of the date of the submittal of the report;

(2) the circumstances under which such research was conducted using canines, felines, or non-human primates;

(3) the justification for using canines, felines, or non-human primates to conduct such research;

(4) the protocols in place to ensure the necessity, safety, and efficacy of such research; and

(5) the development and adoption of alternatives to canines, felines, or non-human primate research.

(e) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Department of Veterans Affairs must submit to voluntary U.S. Department of Agriculture inspections of canine, feline, and non-human primate research facilities.

(f) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to such Committees a report describing —

(1) any violations of the Animal Welfare Act, the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, or other Department of Veterans Affairs policies related to oversight of animal research found during that quarter in VA research facilities;

(2) immediate corrective actions taken; and

(3) specific actions taken to prevent their recurrence.

(g) The Department shall implement a plan under which the Secretary will eliminate the research conducted using canines, felines, or non-human primates by not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 248. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this title to ensure that the ratio of veterans to full-time employment equivalents within any program of rehabilitation conducted under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, does not exceed 125 veterans to one full-time employment equivalent.

(b) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the programs of rehabilitation conducted under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, including—

(1) an assessment of the veteran-to-staff ratio for each such program; and

(2) recommendations for such action as the Secretary considers necessary to reduce the veteran-to-staff ratio for each such program.

SEC. 249. Amounts made available for the “Veterans Health Administration, Medical Community Care” account in this or any other Act for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 may be used for expenses that would otherwise be payable from the Veterans Choice Fund established by section 802 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act, as amended (38 U.S.C. 1701 note).

SEC. 250. Obligations and expenditures applicable to the “Medical Services” account in fiscal years 2017 through 2019 for aid to state homes (as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States Code) shall remain in the “Medical Community Care” account for such fiscal years.

SEC. 251. Of the amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2024, in this or any other Act, under the “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Services”, “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Community Care”, “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Facilities” accounts, \$990,446,000 shall be made available for gender-specific care and programmatic efforts to deliver care for women veterans.

SEC. 252. Of the unobligated balances available in fiscal year 2024 in the “Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund” established in section 243 of division J of Public Law 114-113, and in addition to any funds otherwise made available for such purposes in this, prior, or subsequent fiscal years, \$646,000,000 shall be available for constructing, altering, extending, and improving medical facilities of the Veterans Health Administration, including all supporting activities and required contingencies, during the period of availability of the Fund: *Provided*, That prior to obligation of any of the funds provided in this section, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs must provide a plan for the execution of the funds appropriated in this section to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed.

SEC. 253. Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a quarterly report on the status of section 8006 of the American Rescue Plan of 2021 (Public Law 117-2): *Provided*, That, at a minimum, the report shall include an update on obligations by program, project or activity and a plan for expending the remaining funds.

SEC. 254. Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds made available through the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118-5) for the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund for fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That the budget resource categories supporting the Veterans Health Administration shall be reported by the subcategories “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical and Prosthetic Research”: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Secretary shall submit a quarterly report on the status of the funds, including, at a minimum, an update on obligations by program, project or activity.

SEC. 255. Any amounts transferred to the Secretary and administered by a corporation referred to in section 7364(b) of title 38, United States Code, between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018 for purposes of carrying out an order placed with the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to section 1535 of title 31, United States Code, that are available for obligation pursuant to section 7364(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, are to remain available for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred by such corporation during the period of performance of such order, provided that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines that such amounts need to remain available for such liquidation.

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 256. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading “Departmental Administration—Veterans Electronic Health Record” in division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$460,005,000 is hereby rescinded.

SEC. 257. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to close Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, domiciliaries, or clinics, conduct an environmental assessment, or to diminish healthcare services at existing Veterans Health Administration medical facilities as part of a planned realignment of services until the Secretary provides to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report including an analysis of how any such planned realignment of services will impact access to care for veterans living in rural or highly rural areas, including travel distances and transportation costs to access a Department medical facility and availability of local specialty and primary care.

SEC. 258. Unobligated balances available under the headings “Construction, Major Projects” and “Construction, Minor Projects” may be obligated by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a facility pursuant to section 2(e)(1) of the Communities Helping Invest through Property and Improvements Needed for Veterans Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-294; 38 U.S.C. 8103 note), as amended, to provide additional funds or to fund an escalation clause under such section of such Act: *Provided*, That before such unobligated balances are obligated pursuant to this section, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall request from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress the authority to obligate such unobligated balances and such Committees issue an approval, or absent a response, a period of 30 days has elapsed: *Provided further*, That the request to obligate such unobligated balances must provide Congress notice that the entity described in section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114-294, as amended, has exhausted available cost containment approaches as set forth in the agreement under section 2(c) of such Public Law.

(RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 259. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading "Veterans Health Administration" from prior appropriations Acts, including any funds transferred from the Medical Care Collections Fund to accounts under such heading, \$1,951,750,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were provided under the heading "Medical and Prosthetic Research" or amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a plan for rescinding amounts required by this section no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act.

(RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 260. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs from prior appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts in the amounts specified:

"General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration", \$30,000,000;
 "General Administration", \$5,000,000;
 "Board of Veterans Appeals", \$15,000,000;
 "Information Technology Systems", \$15,000,000; and
 "Construction, Major Projects", \$80,218,560: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 261. Amounts provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs under the heading "Departmental Administration—Construction, Major Projects" in title II of division F of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94) that were transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) pursuant to an interagency agreement for the major construction project in Alameda, CA, and that remain unobligated at the Corps, shall be immediately transferred back to the Department of Veterans Affairs and permanently rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority equivalent to the amount rescinded shall be appropriated, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for the same purposes and under the same authorities for which such amounts were originally provided under such heading in such Act, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one-for-one replacement basis only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$15,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such countries, \$158,630,000, to remain available until expended.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monu-

ments Commission, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended, for purposes authorized by section 2109 of title 36, United States Code.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR
VETERANS CLAIMS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims as authorized by sections 7251 through 7298 of title 38, United States Code, \$47,200,000: *Provided*, That \$3,000,000 shall be available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth under this heading in Public Law 102-229.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL
CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase or lease of passenger motor vehicles for replacement on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed \$2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$99,880,000, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026. In addition, such sums as may be necessary for parking maintenance, repairs and replacement, to be derived from the "Lease of Department of Defense Real Property for Defense Agencies" account.

CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for planning and design and construction at Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, \$88,600,000, to remain available until expended, for planning and design and construction associated with the Southern Expansion project at Arlington National Cemetery.

ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME
TRUST FUND

For expenses necessary for the Armed Forces Retirement Home to operate and maintain the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi, to be paid from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, \$77,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$8,940,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and renovation of the physical plants at the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Washington, District of Columbia, and the Armed Forces Retirement Home—Gulfport, Mississippi: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading from funds available in the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund, \$25,000,000 shall be paid from the general fund of the Treasury to the Trust Fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SEC. 301. Amounts deposited into the special account established under 10 U.S.C. 7727 are appropriated and shall be available until expended to support activities at the Army National Military Cemeteries.

TITLE IV
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 402. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program,

project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 403. All departments and agencies funded under this Act are encouraged, within the limits of the existing statutory authorities and funding, to expand their use of "E-Commerce" technologies and procedures in the conduct of their business practices and public service activities.

SEC. 404. Unless stated otherwise, all reports and notifications required by this Act shall be submitted to the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 405. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 406. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for a project or program named for an individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

SEC. 407. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

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

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains confidential or proprietary information.

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

SEC. 408. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by an agency of the executive branch to pay for first-class travel by an employee of the agency in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 410. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to execute a contract for goods or services, including construction services, where the contractor has not complied with Executive Order No. 12989.

SEC. 411. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 101(e)(8) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 412. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate, or expand any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the

custody or under the control of the Department of Defense.

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

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

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

(2) is—

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

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

SEC. 413. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 5502 of title 38, United States Code, in any case arising out of the administration by the Secretary of laws and benefits under such title, to report a person who is deemed mentally incapacitated, mentally incompetent, or to be experiencing an extended loss of consciousness as a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective under subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18, United States Code, without the order or finding of a judge, magistrate, or other judicial authority of competent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself or herself or others.

This division may be cited as the “Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”.

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PROCESSING, RESEARCH, AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$58,292,000 of which not to exceed \$7,000,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed \$1,896,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security; not to exceed \$5,190,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations, of which \$1,000,000 shall be to continue a Tribal Public Health Resource Center at a land grant university with existing indigenous public health expertise to expand current partnerships and collaborative efforts with indigenous groups, including but not limited to, tribal organizations and institutions such as tribal colleges, tribal technical colleges, tribal community colleges and tribal universities, to improve the delivery of culturally appropriate public health services and functions in American Indian communities focusing on indigenous food sovereignty; not to exceed \$7,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, of which \$1,500,000 shall be for 7 U.S.C. 2279(c)(5); not to exceed \$25,206,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$23,500,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Administration mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for

the Office; not to exceed \$4,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed \$7,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$22,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551–558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs shall be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency: *Provided further*, That during any 30 day notification period referenced in section 716 of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall take no action to begin implementation of the action that is subject to section 716 of this Act or make any public announcement of such action in any form.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Economist, \$30,500,000, of which \$10,000,000 shall be for grants or cooperative agreements for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$2,000,000 shall be for an interdisciplinary center based at a land grant university focused on agricultural policy relevant to the Midwest region which will provide private entities, policymakers, and the public with timely insights and targeted economic solutions: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$500,000 shall be available to carry out section 224 of subtitle A of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6924), as amended by section 12504 of Public Law 115–334.

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, \$16,703,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, \$14,967,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, \$91,000,000, of which not less than \$77,428,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$6,867,000.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, \$1,466,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Civil Rights mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$37,000,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92–313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 121, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, \$22,603,000, to remain available until expended.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

OFFICE OF SAFETY, SECURITY, AND PROTECTION

For necessary expenses of the Office of Safety, Security, and Protection, \$20,800,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–452; 5 U.S.C. App.), \$111,561,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–452; 5 U.S.C. App.), and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–452; 5 U.S.C. App.) and section 1337 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–98).

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$60,537,000.

OFFICE OF ETHICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Ethics, \$4,500,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, \$1,884,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Research, Education, and Economics mission area for salaries and expenses are

available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$500,000 shall be made available for the Office of the Chief Scientist.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service, \$90,612,000.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, \$187,513,000, of which up to \$46,850,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: *Provided*, That amounts made available for the Census of Agriculture may be used to conduct Current Industrial Report surveys subject to 7 U.S.C. 2204g(d) and (f).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100,000 and with prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$1,788,063,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$500,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,800,000, except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$1,100,000 each, and except for four buildings to be constructed at a cost not to exceed \$5,000,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$500,000, whichever is greater: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for entering into lease agreements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the lease shall be that any facility shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the non-Federal entity and shall be removed upon the expiration or termination of the lease agreement: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other

political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$57,164,000, to remain available until expended, for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, \$1,075,950,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for research grants for 1994 institutions, education grants for 1890 institutions, Hispanic serving institutions education grants, capacity building for non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, the agriculture and food research initiative, veterinary medicine loan repayment, multicultural scholars, graduate fellowship and institution challenge grants, grants management systems, tribal colleges education equity grants, and scholarships at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each institution eligible to receive funds under the Evans-Allen program receives no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be made available to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii: *Provided further*, That funds for providing grants for food and agricultural sciences for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving institutions and for Insular Areas shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for 1890 institutions shall be made available to institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 and 3222: *Provided further*, That not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available by this or any other Act to carry out the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 3157 may be retained by the Secretary of Agriculture to pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out that authority.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103-382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$11,880,000, to remain available until expended.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa, \$561,700,000 which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Ac-

tivities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for extension services at 1994 institutions and for facility improvements at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 for cooperative extension receive no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for cooperative extension under sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)) and section 208(c) of Public Law 93-471 shall be available for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, \$41,100,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, indirect costs shall not be charged against any Extension Implementation Program Area grant awarded under the Crop Protection/Pest Management Program (7 U.S.C. 7626).

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, \$1,617,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Marketing and Regulatory Programs mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to \$30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), \$1,162,026,000, of which up to \$14,276,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act); of which \$500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for invasive catfish control; of which \$250,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds ("contingency fund") to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which \$15,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program, including for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which \$40,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Health Technical Services; of which \$35,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for agricultural quarantine and inspection services; of which \$3,500,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which \$65,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of

which \$215,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests, of which \$8,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for one-time control and management and associated activities directly related to the multiple-agency response to citrus greening; of which, \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which \$21,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for zoonotic disease management; of which \$44,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for emergency preparedness and response; of which \$59,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which \$6,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the scrapie program for indemnities; of which \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the wildlife damage management program for aviation safety: *Provided*, That of amounts available under this heading for wildlife services methods development, \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of amounts available under this heading for the screwworm program, \$4,990,000 shall remain available until expended; of which \$24,527,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to carry out the science program and transition activities for the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility located in Manhattan, Kansas: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the purchase, replacement, operation, and maintenance of aircraft: *Provided further*, That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of the United States, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2024, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, im-

provement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2268a, \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, \$222,887,000, of which \$6,000,000 shall be available for the purposes of section 12306 of Public Law 113-79, and of which \$1,000,000 shall be available for the purposes of section 779 of division A of Public Law 117-103: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be to carry out section 12513 of Public Law 115-334, of which \$11,250,000 shall be for dairy business innovation initiatives established in Public Law 116-6 and the Secretary shall take measures to ensure an equal distribution of funds between these three regional innovation initiatives: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701), except for the cost of activities relating to the development or maintenance of grain standards under the United States Grain Standards Act, 7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$62,596,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a et seq.); (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$21,501,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961 (Public Law 87-128).

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$1,000,000.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$55,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: *Provided*, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, \$1,117,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Food Safety mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed \$10,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$1,190,009,000; and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): *Provided*, That funds provided for the Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no fewer than 148 full-time equivalent positions shall be employed during fiscal year 2024 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.): *Provided further*, That the Food Safety and Inspection Service shall continue implementation of section 11016 of Public Law 110-246 as further clarified by the amendments made in section 12106 of Public Law 113-79: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

TITLE II

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation, \$1,527,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Farm Production and Conservation mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION BUSINESS CENTER

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center, \$244,183,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall be for the implementation of section 773 of Public Law 117-328: *Provided*, That \$60,228,000 of amounts appropriated for the current fiscal year pursuant to section 1241(a) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)) shall be transferred to and merged with this account.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Service Agency, \$1,209,307,000, of which not less than \$15,000,000 shall be for the hiring of new employees to fill vacancies and anticipated vacancies at Farm Service Agency county offices and farm loan officers and shall be available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the agency shall submit a report by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2024 to the Committees on Appropriations of both

Houses of Congress that identifies for each project/investment that is operational (a) current performance against key indicators of customer satisfaction, (b) current performance of service level agreements or other technical metrics, (c) current performance against a pre-established cost baseline, (d) a detailed breakdown of current and planned spending on operational enhancements or upgrades, and (e) an assessment of whether the investment continues to meet business needs as intended as well as alternatives to the investment: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: *Provided further*, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$696,594,000 shall be made available to county offices, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the preceding proviso, any funds made available to county offices in the current fiscal year that the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency deems to exceed or not meet the amount needed for the county offices may be transferred to or from the Farm Service Agency for necessary expenses: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to close Farm Service Agency county offices: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to permanently relocate county based employees that would result in an office with two or fewer employees without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101–5106), \$6,500,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture may determine that United States territories and Federally recognized Indian tribes are “States” for the purposes of Subtitle A of such Act.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out well-head or groundwater protection activities under section 12400 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-2), \$7,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549A-12).

GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS

For necessary expenses to carry out direct reimbursement payments to geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers under section 1621 of the Food Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8792), \$3,500,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm own-

ership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, emergency loans (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.), Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 5136), boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), guaranteed conservation loans (7 U.S.C. 1924 et seq.), relending program (7 U.S.C. 1936c), and Indian highly fractionated land loans (25 U.S.C. 5136) to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: \$3,500,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and \$3,100,000,000 for farm ownership direct loans; \$2,118,491,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and \$1,633,000,000 for direct operating loans; emergency loans, \$37,667,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$20,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, \$150,000,000; relending program, \$61,426,000; Indian highly fractionated land loans, \$5,000,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, \$60,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans and grants, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: \$3,507,000 for emergency loans, to remain available until expended; and \$27,598,000 for direct farm operating loans, \$1,483,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed farm operating loans, \$19,368,000 for the relending program, \$1,577,000 for Indian highly fractionated land loans, and \$258,000 for boll weevil eradication program loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$326,053,000: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$305,803,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses”.

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating and conservation direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Risk Management Agency, \$65,637,000: *Provided*, That \$1,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading in this Act shall be available for compliance and integrity activities required under section 516(b)(2)(C) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1516(b)(2)(C)), and shall be in addition to amounts otherwise provided for such purpose: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 2268a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and tem-

porary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$914,899,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$19,144,913 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: *Provided further*, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available under this heading, \$7,000,000 shall be for necessary expenses to carry out the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Program under section 222 of subtitle A of title II of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6923), as amended by section 12302 of Public Law 115-334.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out preventive measures, including but not limited to surveys and investigations, engineering operations, works of improvement, and changes in use of land, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009) and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, \$35,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$20,350,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That for funds provided by this Act or any other prior Act, the limitation regarding the size of the watershed or subwatershed exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand acres in which such activities can be undertaken shall only apply for activities undertaken for the primary purpose of flood prevention (including structural and land treatment measures): *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$14,650,000 shall be allocated to multi-benefit irrigation modernization projects and activities that increase fish or wildlife habitat, reduce drought impact, improve water quality or instream flow, or provide off-channel renewable energy production.

WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Under the authorities of section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, \$1,000,000 is provided.

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND
REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11): *Provided*, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in writing 15 days prior to the obligation or commitment of any emergency funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation: *Provided further*, That such written notification shall include a detailed spend plan for the anticipated uses of such funds and an expected timeline for program execution if such obligation or commitment exceeds \$100,000,000.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT
(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$15,000,000 for site investigation and cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, \$1,620,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Rural Development mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of Rural Development programs, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; \$351,087,000: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, up to \$1,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for the Rural Partners Network activities of the Department of Agriculture, and may be transferred to other agencies of the Department for such purpose, consistent with the missions and authorities of such agencies: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, no less than \$75,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for information technology expenses: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support Rural Development programs: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other funds appropriated for purposes authorized by section 502(i) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472(i)), any amounts collected under such section, as

amended by this Act, will immediately be credited to this account and will remain available until expended for such purposes.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$880,000,000 shall be for section 502 direct loans; \$5,000,000 shall be for a Single Family Housing Relending demonstration program for Native American Tribes; and \$25,000,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2025 shall be for section 502 unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$25,000,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$60,000,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$400,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$10,000,000 for credit sales of single family housing acquired property; \$5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans; and \$5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$84,480,000 shall be for direct loans; Single Family Housing Relending demonstration program for Native American Tribes, \$2,288,000; section 504 housing repair loans, \$4,338,000; section 523 self-help housing land development loans, \$637,000; section 524 site development loans, \$477,000; and repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, \$20,988,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That to support the loan program level for section 538 guaranteed loans made available under this heading the Secretary may charge or adjust any fees to cover the projected cost of such loan guarantees pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), and the interest on such loans may not be subsidized: *Provided further*, That applicants in communities that have a current rural area waiver under section 541 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490q) shall be treated as living in a rural area for purposes of section 502 guaranteed loans provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts available under this paragraph for section 502 direct loans, no less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for direct loans for individuals whose homes will be built pursuant to a program funded with a mutual and self-help housing grant authorized by section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 until June 1, 2024: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall implement provisions to provide incentives to nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities to facilitate the acquisition of Rural Housing Service (RHS) multifamily housing properties by such nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities that commit to keep such properties in the RHS multifamily housing program for a period of time as determined by the Secretary, with such incentives to include, but not be limited to, the following: allow such nonprofit entities and public housing authorities to earn a Return on Investment on their own resources to include proceeds from low income housing tax credit syndication, own contributions, grants, and developer loans at favorable rates and terms, invested in a deal; and allow reimbursement of organizational costs associated with owner's oversight of asset referred to as "Asset Management Fee" of up to \$7,500 per property.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans and grants, including the cost of modifying

loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$34,000,000, to remain available until expended, for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multi-family housing loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to preserve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-income residents and farm laborers including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or re-amortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances, payments and incentives (including the ability of owners to obtain reasonable returns on investment) required by the Secretary: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall, as part of the preservation and revitalization agreement, obtain a restrictive use agreement consistent with the terms of the restructuring.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by sections 514 and 516 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484, 1486), \$12,722,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$412,254,000 shall be paid to the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) of the Housing Act of 1949 or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$1,608,000,000, and in addition such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available for renewal of rental assistance agreements for a maximum of 1,000 units where the Secretary determines that a maturing loan for a project cannot reasonably be restructured with another USDA loan or modification and the project was operating with rental assistance under section 521 of the Housing Act of 1949: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may enter into rental assistance contracts in maturing properties with existing rental assistance agreements notwithstanding any provision of section 521 of the Housing Act of 1949, for a term of at least 10 years but not more than 20 years: *Provided further*, That any agreement to enter into a rental assistance contract under section 521 of the Housing Act of 1949 for a maturing property shall obligate the owner to continue to maintain the project as decent, safe, and sanitary housing and to operate the development in accordance with the Housing Act of 1949, except that rents shall be based on current Fair Market Rents as established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to 24 CFR 888 Subpart A, 42 U.S.C. 1437f and 3535d, to determine the maximum initial rent and adjusted annually by the Operating Cost Adjustment Factor pursuant to 24 CFR 888 Subpart B, unless the Agency determines that the project's budget-based needs require a higher rent, in which case the Agency may approve a budget-based rent level: *Provided further*, That rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a one year period: *Provided further*, That

upon request by an owner under section 514 or 515 of the Act, the Secretary may renew the rental assistance agreement for a period of 20 years or until the term of such loan has expired, subject to annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such one-year agreements may be transferred and used for purposes of any debt reduction, maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: *Provided further*, That rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2024 for a farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act may not be recaptured for use in another project until such assistance has remained unused for a period of twelve consecutive months, if such project has a waiting list of tenants seeking such assistance or the project has rental assistance eligible tenants who are not receiving such assistance: *Provided further*, That such recaptured rental assistance shall, to the extent practicable, be applied to another farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the eighth proviso under this heading and notwithstanding any other provision of the Act, the Secretary may recapture rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2024 for a project that the Secretary determines no longer needs rental assistance and use such recaptured funds for current needs.

RURAL HOUSING VOUCHER ACCOUNT

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, but notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, \$48,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the funds made available under this heading shall be available for rural housing vouchers to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid or otherwise paid off after September 30, 2005: *Provided further*, That the amount of such voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: *Provided further*, That funds made available for such vouchers shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and administrative guidance applicable to section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than \$1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants for very low-income housing repair and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, and 1490m, \$35,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as au-

thorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$2,800,000,000 for direct loans and \$650,000,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees and grants, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$18,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$5,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances from prior year appropriations under this heading for the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees and grants, including amounts deobligated or cancelled, may be made available to cover the subsidy costs for direct loans and or loan guarantees under this heading in this fiscal year: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be made available pursuant to the preceding proviso from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, or that were specified in the tables titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statements for division A of Public Law 117-103 and division A of Public Law 117-328 as described in section 4 in the matter preceding each such division A: *Provided further*, That \$8,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of such Act: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than \$1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of loan guarantees and grants, for the rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in subsections (a), (c), (f) and (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$66,615,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for one grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development and \$8,000,000 shall be for grants to the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C.

2009aa et seq.), the Northern Border Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 15101 et seq.), the Southwest Border Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 15301 et seq.), and the Appalachian Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 14101 et seq.) for any Rural Community Advancement Program purpose as described in section 381E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$100,000 shall be made available for one or more qualified state technology council to promote private-sector economic development in the bio-sciences: *Provided further*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for business grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including \$250,000 for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to funds made available under this heading.

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), \$10,000,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$3,035,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which \$573,000 shall be available through June 30, 2024, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which \$1,147,000 shall be available through June 30, 2024, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100-460): *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$4,468,000 shall be paid to the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313B(a) of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$50,000,000.

The cost of grants authorized under section 313B(a) of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects shall not exceed \$10,000,000.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$24,600,000, of which \$2,800,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall be for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged groups and a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups; and of which \$13,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 210A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, of which \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Agriculture Innovation

Centers authorized pursuant to section 6402 of Public Law 107-171.

RURAL MICROENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For the principal amount of direct loans as authorized by section 379E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008s), \$20,000,000.

For the cost of loans and grants, \$5,000,000 under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 379E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008s).

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

For the principal amount of loan guarantees, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107), \$50,000,000.

HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE

For the cost of loans and grants that is consistent with section 243 of subtitle D of title II of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6953), as added by section 4206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, for necessary expenses of the Secretary to support projects that provide access to healthy food in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities, \$500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs of loans, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as follows: \$860,000,000 for direct loans; and \$50,000,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees and grants, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, for rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B and described in sections 306C(a)(2), 306D, 306E, and 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$595,972,000, to remain available until expended, of which up to \$117,484,737 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$5,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for grants authorized by section 306A(i)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act in addition to funding authorized by section 306A(i)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That \$65,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for loans and grants including water and waste disposal systems grants authorized by section 306C(a)(2)(B) and section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes authorized by 306C(a)(1) of such Act, and the De-

partment of Hawaiian Home Lands (of the State of Hawaii): *Provided further*, That funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be provided to a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by the State of Alaska for training and technical assistance programs and not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83 for training and technical assistance programs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$35,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need, of which \$8,500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified nonprofit multi-State regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems, the principal purpose of such grant shall be to assist rural communities with populations of 3,300 or less, in improving the planning, financing, development, operation, and management of water and waste water systems, and of which not less than \$800,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$21,817,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$4,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading shall be for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,695,000 of the amounts appropriated under this heading shall be available as the Secretary deems appropriate for water and waste direct one percent loans for distressed communities: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that any portion of the amount made available for one percent loans is not needed for such loans, the Secretary may use such amounts for grants authorized by section 306(a)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That if any funds made available for the direct loan subsidy costs remain unobligated after July 31, 2024, such unobligated balances may be used for grant programs funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That \$8,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to, and merged with, the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account to provide grants authorized under section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a): *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The principal amount of loans and loan guarantees as authorized by sections 4, 305, 306, 313A, and 317 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 904, 935, 936, 940c-1, and 940g) shall be made as follows: guaranteed rural electric loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, \$2,167,000,000; cost of money direct loans made pursuant to sections 4, notwithstanding the one-eighth of one percent in 4(c)(2), and 317, notwithstanding 317(c), of that Act, \$4,333,000,000; guaranteed

underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A of that Act, \$900,000,000; and for cost-of-money rural telecommunications loans made pursuant to section 305(d)(2) of that Act, \$550,000,000: *Provided*, That up to \$2,000,000,000 shall be used for the construction, acquisition, design, engineering or improvement of fossil-fueled electric generating plants (whether new or existing) that utilize carbon subsurface utilization and storage systems.

For the cost of direct loans as authorized by section 305(d)(2) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935(d)(2)), including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, \$5,720,000.

In addition, \$3,578,000 to remain available until expended, to carry out section 6407 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107a): *Provided*, That the energy efficiency measures supported by the funding in this paragraph shall contribute in a demonstrable way to the reduction of greenhouse gases.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$33,270,000, which shall be paid to the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$49,574,000, to remain available until expended, of which up to \$9,573,570 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That \$3,000,000 shall be made available for grants authorized by section 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That funding provided under this heading for grants under section 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may only be provided to entities that meet all of the eligibility criteria for a consortium as established by this section.

For the cost to continue a broadband loan and grant pilot program established by section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), \$100,385,000, to remain available until expended, of which up to \$10,385,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That the Secretary may award grants described in section 601(a) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 950bb(a)) for the purposes of carrying out such pilot program: *Provided further*, That the cost of direct loans shall be defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That at least 90 percent of the households to be served by a project receiving a loan or grant under the pilot program shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to broadband: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such pilot program, a rural area without sufficient access to broadband shall be defined as twenty-five megabits per second downstream and three megabits per second upstream: *Provided further*, That to the extent possible, projects receiving funds provided under the pilot program must build out service to at least one hundred megabits per second downstream, and twenty megabits

per second upstream: *Provided further*, That an entity to which a loan or grant is made under the pilot program shall not use the loan or grant to overbuild or duplicate broadband service in a service area by any entity that has received a broadband loan from the Rural Utilities Service unless such service is not provided sufficient access to broadband at the minimum service threshold: *Provided further*, That not more than four percent of the funds made available in this paragraph can be used for administrative costs to carry out the pilot program and up to three percent of funds made available in this paragraph may be available for technical assistance and pre-development planning activities to support the most rural communities: *Provided further*, That the Rural Utilities Service is directed to expedite program delivery methods that would implement this paragraph: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary shall adhere to the notice, reporting and service area assessment requirements set forth in section 701 of the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 950cc).

In addition, \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Community Connect Grant Program authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950bb-3.

TITLE IV

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, \$1,127,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$33,266,226,000, to remain available through September 30, 2025, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided*, That of the total amount available, \$18,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$21,005,000 shall be available to carry out studies and evaluations and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out section 18(g) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 18(g)(3)(C) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)(3)(c)), the total grant amount provided to a farm to school grant recipient in fiscal year 2024 shall not exceed \$500,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$10,000,000 shall be available to provide competitive grants to State agencies for subgrants to local educational agencies and schools to purchase the equipment, with a value of greater than \$1,000, needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the school breakfast program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$1,000,000 shall remain

available until expended to carry out activities authorized under subsections (a)(2) and (e)(2) of section 21 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769b-1(a)(2) and (e)(2)): *Provided further*, That section 26(d) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769g(d)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “2010 through 2024” and inserting “2010 through 2025”: *Provided further*, That section 9(h)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(3)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “For fiscal year 2023” and inserting “For fiscal year 2024”: *Provided further*, That section 9(h)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(4)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “For fiscal year 2023” and inserting “For fiscal year 2024”.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$7,030,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than \$90,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, and \$14,000,000 shall be used for infrastructure: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use funds made available under this heading to increase the amount of a cash-value voucher for women and children participants to an amount recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine and adjusted for inflation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement at 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$122,382,521,000, of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2026, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$998,000 may be used to provide nutrition education services to State agencies and Federally Recognized Tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be used to carry out section 4003(b) of Public Law 115-334 relating to demonstration projects for tribal organizations: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 4208 of Public Law 115-334: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*,

That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1), section 4(b), and section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be obligated or expended in contravention of section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1183A): *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-188); and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, \$480,070,000, to remain available through September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2024 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use up to 20 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, \$177,348,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, \$2,000,000 shall be used for the purposes of section 4404 of Public Law 107-171, as amended by section 4401 of Public Law 110-246.

TITLE V

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, \$932,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to any agency in the Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

OFFICE OF CODEX ALIMENTARIUS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Codex Alimentarius, \$4,922,000, including not to exceed \$40,000 for official reception and representation expenses.

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including not to exceed \$250,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766),

\$227,330,000, of which no more than 6 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2025, for overseas operations to include the payment of locally employed staff: *Provided*, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That funds made available for middle-income country training programs, funds made available for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, and up to \$2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall remain available until expended.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, \$1,619,107,000, to remain available until expended.

MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1), \$240,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, not more than 10 percent, but not less than \$24,000,000, shall remain available until expended to purchase agricultural commodities as described in subsection 3107(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1(a)(2)).

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Guarantee Program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$6,063,000, to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, which shall be paid to the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses".

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; in addition to amounts appropriated to the FDA Innova-

tion Account, for carrying out the activities described in section 1002(b)(4) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255); for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107-188; \$6,721,782,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,422,104,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379h, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$362,381,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$613,538,000 shall be derived from human generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-42, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$31,109,000 shall be derived from biosimilar biological product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-52, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$33,500,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-12, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$25,000,000 shall be derived from generic new animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-21, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$712,000,000 shall be derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That in addition to and notwithstanding any other provision under this heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and generic new animal drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 2024 limitations are appropriated and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, human generic drug, biosimilar biological product, animal drug, and generic new animal drug assessments for fiscal year 2024, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2024 but credited for fiscal year 2024, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2024 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2024 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2025, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2025 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2024 shall not be included in amounts under this heading: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) \$1,185,989,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs, of which no less than \$15,000,000 shall be used for inspections of foreign seafood manufacturers and field examinations of imported seafood; (2) \$2,334,704,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs, of which no less than \$10,000,000 shall be for pilots to increase unannounced foreign inspections and shall remain available until expended; (3) \$570,632,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) \$284,285,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regu-

latory Affairs; (5) \$770,697,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) \$77,505,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$684,324,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (8) \$215,701,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$55,061,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) \$230,423,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) \$367,522,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of Food Policy and Response, the Office of Operations, the Office of the Chief Scientist, and central services for these offices: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$25,000 of this amount shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Commissioner: *Provided further*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to, and for the administration of, section 770(n) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379dd(n)) shall only be from amounts made available under this heading for other activities and shall not exceed \$2,000,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts that are made available under this heading for "other activities", and that are not derived from user fees, \$1,500,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Department of Health and Human Services—Office of Inspector General" for oversight of the programs and operations of the Food and Drug Administration and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available for oversight of the Food and Drug Administration: *Provided further*, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, priority review user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360n and 360ff, food and feed recall fees, food reinspection fees, and voluntary qualified importer program fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-31, outsourcing facility fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-62, prescription drug wholesale distributor licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), third-party logistics provider licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360eee-3(c)(1), third-party auditor fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 384d(c)(8), medical countermeasure priority review voucher user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-4a, and fees relating to over-the-counter monograph drugs authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-72 shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, demolition, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FDA INNOVATION ACCOUNT, CURES ACT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the purposes described under section 1002(b)(4) of the 21st Century Cures Act, in addition to amounts available for such purposes under the heading "Salaries and Expenses", \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That amounts appropriated in this paragraph are appropriated pursuant to section 1002(b)(3) of the 21st Century Cures

Act, are to be derived from amounts transferred under section 1002(b)(2)(A) of such Act, and may be transferred by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to the appropriation for “Department of Health and Human Services Food and Drug Administration Salaries and Expenses” solely for the purposes provided in such Act: *Provided further*, That upon a determination by the Commissioner that funds transferred pursuant to the previous proviso are not necessary for the purposes provided, such amounts may be transferred back to the account: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and the rental of space (to include multiple year leases), in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$365,000,000, including not to exceed \$3,000 for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed \$25,000 for the expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, of which not less than \$80,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and of which not less than \$4,218,000 shall be for expenses of the Office of the Inspector General: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the limitations in 31 U.S.C. 1553, amounts provided under this heading are available for the liquidation of obligations equal to current year payments on leases entered into prior to the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of recording and liquidating any lease obligations that should have been recorded and liquidated against accounts closed pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1552, and consistent with the preceding proviso, such amounts shall be transferred to and recorded in a no-year account in the Treasury, which has been established for the sole purpose of recording adjustments for and liquidating such unpaid obligations.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$94,300,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions, including the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships: *Provided further*, That the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That the purposes of section 3.7(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 (12 U.S.C. 2128(b)(2)(A)(i)), the Farm Credit Administration may exempt, an amount in its sole discretion, from the application of the limitation provided in that clause of export loans described in the clause guaranteed or insured in a manner other than described in subclause (II) of the clause.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. The Secretary may use any appropriations made available to the Department of Agriculture in this Act to purchase new passenger motor vehicles, in addition to specific appropriations for this purpose, so long as the total number of vehicles purchased in fiscal year 2024 does not exceed the number of vehicles owned or leased in fiscal year

2018: *Provided*, That, prior to purchasing additional motor vehicles, the Secretary must determine that such vehicles are necessary for transportation safety, to reduce operational costs, and for the protection of life, property, and public safety: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not increase the Department of Agriculture’s fleet above the 2018 level unless the Secretary notifies in writing, and receives approval from, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 30 days of the notification.

SEC. 702. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or any other available unobligated discretionary balances that are remaining available of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment and for the improvement, delivery, and implementation of Department financial, and administrative information technology services, and other support systems necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services, including cloud adoption and migration, of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture, such transferred funds to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department’s Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to make any changes to the Department’s National Finance Center without written notification to and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as required by section 716 of this Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department’s Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to initiate, plan, develop, implement, or make any changes to remove or relocate any systems, missions, personnel, or functions of the offices of the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Information Officer, co-located with or from the National Finance Center prior to written notification to and prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress and in accordance with the requirements of section 716 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the National Finance Center Information Technology Services Division personnel and data center management responsibilities, and control of any functions, missions, and systems for current and future human resources management and integrated personnel and payroll systems (PPS) and functions provided by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Information Officer shall remain in the National Finance Center and under the management responsibility and administrative control of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture and the offices of the Chief Financial Officer shall actively market to existing and new Departments and other government agencies National Finance Center shared services including, but not limited to, payroll, financial management, and human capital shared services and allow the National Finance Center to perform technology upgrades: *Provided further*, That of annual income amounts in

the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture attributable to the amounts in excess of the true costs of the shared services provided by the National Finance Center and budgeted for the National Finance Center, the Secretary shall reserve not more than 4 percent for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment, including equipment for the improvement, delivery, and implementation of financial, administrative, and information technology services, and other systems of the National Finance Center or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary cost of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts reserved shall be available for obligation unless the Secretary submits written notification of the obligation to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That the limitations on the obligation of funds pending notification to Congressional Committees shall not apply to any obligation that, as determined by the Secretary, is necessary to respond to a declared state of emergency that significantly impacts the operations of the National Finance Center; or to evacuate employees of the National Finance Center to a safe haven to continue operations of the National Finance Center.

SEC. 703. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 704. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 705. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SEC. 706. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 11319 of title 40, United States Code, none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects, contracts, or other agreements over \$25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer: *Provided further*, That the Chief Information Officer may authorize an agency to obligate funds without written approval from the Chief Information Officer for projects, contracts, or other agreements

up to \$250,000 based upon the performance of an agency measured against the performance plan requirements described in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 113-235.

SEC. 707. Funds made available under section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year.

SEC. 708. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any former Rural Utilities Service borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under section 313B(a) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SEC. 709. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not more than \$20,000,000 in unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency shall remain available through September 30, 2025, for information technology expenses.

SEC. 710. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 711. In the case of each program established or amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) or by a successor to that Act, other than by title I or subtitle A of title III of such Act, or programs for which indefinite amounts were provided in that Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation—

(1) such funds shall be available for salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and

(2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in such section.

SEC. 712. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than \$2,900,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 713. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 714. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 14222 of Public Law 110-246 (7 U.S.C. 612c-6; in this section referred to as “section 14222”), none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c; in this section referred to as “section 32”) in excess of \$1,574,028,000 (exclusive of carryover appropriations from prior fiscal years), as follows: Child Nutri-

tion Programs Entitlement Commodities—\$485,000,000; State Option Contracts—\$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities—\$1,660,000; Administration of section 32 Commodity Purchases—\$37,178,000: *Provided*, That, of the total funds made available in the matter preceding this proviso that remain unobligated on October 1, 2024, such unobligated balances shall carryover into fiscal year 2025 and shall remain available until expended for any of the purposes of section 32, except that any such carryover funds used in accordance with clause (3) of section 32 may not exceed \$350,000,000 and may not be obligated until the Secretary of Agriculture provides written notification of the expenditures to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least two weeks in advance: *Provided further*, That, with the exception of any available carryover funds authorized in any prior appropriations Act to be used for the purposes of clause (3) of section 32, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture to carry out clause (3) of section 32.

SEC. 715. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President’s budget submission to the Congress for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget unless such budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2024 appropriations Act.

SEC. 716. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89-106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or

(6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that re-

main available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the authorities referred to in subsection (a) involving funds in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall notify in writing and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

(d) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for—

(1) modifying major capital investments funding levels, including information technology systems, that involves increasing or decreasing funds in the current fiscal year for the individual investment in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent of the total cost, whichever is less;

(2) realigning or reorganizing new, current, or vacant positions or agency activities or functions to establish a center, office, branch, or similar entity with five or more personnel; or

(3) carrying out activities or functions that were not described in the budget request; unless the agencies funded by this Act notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of using the funds for these purposes.

(e) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.

SEC. 717. Notwithstanding section 310B(g)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(5)), the Secretary may assess a one-time fee for any guaranteed business and industry loan in an amount that does not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed principal portion of the loan.

SEC. 718. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department

of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available reports, questions, or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process to any non-Department of Agriculture, non-Department of Health and Human Services, non-Commodity Futures Trading Commission, or non-Farm Credit Administration employee.

SEC. 719. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 720. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act or any other Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 60 days in a fiscal year unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 721. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a detailed spending plan by program, project, and activity for all the funds made available under this Act including appropriated user fees, as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 722. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to propose, promulgate, or implement any rule, or take any other action with respect to, allowing or requiring information intended for a prescribing health care professional, in the case of a drug or biological product subject to section 503(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 353(b)(1)), to be distributed to such professional electronically (in lieu of in paper form) unless and until a Federal law is enacted to allow or require such distribution.

SEC. 723. For the purposes of determining eligibility or level of program assistance for Rural Housing Service programs the Secretary shall not include incarcerated prison populations.

SEC. 724. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: *Provided*, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.

SEC. 725. None of the credit card refunds or rebates transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to section 729 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (7 U.S.C. 2235a; Public Law 107-76) shall be available for obligation without written notification to, and the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided*, That the refunds or rebates so transferred shall be available for obligation only

for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment, including equipment for the improvement, delivery, and implementation of Departmental financial management, information technology, and other support systems necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services, including cloud adoption and migration, of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 726. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the "variety" requirements of the final rule entitled "Enhancing Retailer Standards in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)" published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on December 15, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 90675) until the Secretary of Agriculture amends the definition of the term "variety" as defined in section 278.1(b)(1)(ii)(C) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, and "variety" as applied in the definition of the term "staple food" as defined in section 271.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, to increase the number of items that qualify as acceptable varieties in each staple food category so that the total number of such items in each staple food category exceeds the number of such items in each staple food category included in the final rule as published on December 15, 2016: *Provided*, That until the Secretary promulgates such regulatory amendments, the Secretary shall apply the requirements regarding acceptable varieties and breadth of stock to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program retailers that were in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79).

SEC. 727. In carrying out subsection (h) of section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472), the Secretary of Agriculture shall have the same authority with respect to loans guaranteed under such section and eligible lenders for such loans as the Secretary has under subsections (h) and (j) of section 538 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1490p-2) with respect to loans guaranteed under such section 538 and eligible lenders for such loans.

SEC. 728. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be available for the United States Department of Agriculture to propose, finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new user fees pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9701 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 729. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the Broadband Treasury Rate Loan program, authorized in section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb), \$7,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 730. Notwithstanding any provision of law that regulates the calculation and payment of overtime and holiday pay for FSIS inspectors, the Secretary may charge establishments subject to the inspection requirements of the Poultry Products Inspection Act, 21 U.S.C. 451 et seq., the Federal Meat Inspection Act, 21 U.S.C. 601 et seq., and the Egg Products Inspection Act, 21 U.S.C. 1031 et seq., for the cost of inspection services provided outside of an establishment's approved inspection shifts, and for inspection services provided on Federal holidays: *Provided*, That any sums charged pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed as overtime pay or holiday pay under section 1001(d) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub-

lic Law 117-2, 135 Stat. 242): *Provided further*, That sums received by the Secretary under this paragraph shall, in addition to other available funds, remain available until expended to the Secretary without further appropriation for the purpose of funding all costs associated with FSIS inspections.

SEC. 731. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) conduct audits in a manner that evaluates the following factors in the country or region being audited, as applicable—

- (A) veterinary control and oversight;
- (B) disease history and vaccination practices;
- (C) livestock demographics and traceability;
- (D) epidemiological separation from potential sources of infection;
- (E) surveillance practices;
- (F) diagnostic laboratory capabilities; and
- (G) emergency preparedness and response; and

(2) promptly make publicly available the final reports of any audits or reviews conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(b) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under its international trade agreements.

SEC. 732. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the rural housing voucher program authorized by section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, (42 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.), as amended, \$35,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 733. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available under the heading "Rural Cooperative Development Grants" for Agriculture Innovation Centers authorized by section 6402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1632b), as amended, \$7,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 734. (a)(1) No Federal funds made available for this fiscal year for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926 et seq.) shall be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water or wastewater system unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States.

(2) In this section, the term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Secretary of Agriculture (in this section referred to as the "Secretary") or the designee of the Secretary finds that—

(1) applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;

(2) iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or

(3) inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the

cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

(c) If the Secretary or the designee receives a request for a waiver under this section, the Secretary or the designee shall make available to the public on an informal basis a copy of the request and information available to the Secretary or the designee concerning the request, and shall allow for informal public input on the request for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request. The Secretary or the designee shall make the request and accompanying information available by electronic means, including on the official public Internet Web site of the Department.

(d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

(e) The Secretary may retain up to 0.25 percent of the funds appropriated in this Act for “Rural Utilities Service—Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account” for carrying out the provisions described in subsection (a)(1) for management and oversight of the requirements of this section.

(f) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a project for which the engineering plans and specifications include use of iron and steel products otherwise prohibited by such subsection if the plans and specifications have received required approvals from State agencies prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) For purposes of this section, the terms “United States” and “State” shall include each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and each Federally recognized Indian Tribe.

SEC. 735. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 736. Of the total amounts made available by this Act for direct loans and grants under the following headings: “Rural Housing Service—Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account”; “Rural Housing Service—Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants”; “Rural Housing Service—Rural Housing Assistance Grants”; “Rural Housing Service—Rural Community Facilities Program Account”; “Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Rural Business Program Account”; “Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Rural Cooperative Development Grants”; “Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program”; “Rural Utilities Service—Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account”; “Rural Utilities Service—Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account”; and “Rural Utilities Service—Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program”, to the maximum extent feasible, at least 10 percent of the funds shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties under this section, including, notwithstanding any other provision regarding population limits, any county seat of such a persistent poverty county that has a population that does not exceed the authorized population limit by more than 10 percent: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses, and 2007–2011 American Community Survey 5-year average, or any territory or possession of the United States: *Provided further*, That with respect to specific activities

for which program levels have been made available by this Act that are not supported by budget authority, the requirements of this section shall be applied to such program level.

SEC. 737. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to notify a sponsor or otherwise acknowledge receipt of a submission for an exemption for investigational use of a drug or biological product under section 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)) or section 351(a)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262(a)(3)) in research in which a human embryo is intentionally created or modified to include a heritable genetic modification. Any such submission shall be deemed to have not been received by the Secretary, and the exemption may not go into effect.

SEC. 738. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enforce the final rule promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration entitled “Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption”, and published on November 27, 2015, with respect to the regulation of entities that grow, harvest, pack, or hold wine grapes, hops, pulse crops, or almonds.

SEC. 739. For school years 2023–2024 and 2024–2025, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement or enforce the matter following the first comma in the second sentence of footnote (c) of section 220.8(c) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, with respect to the substitution of vegetables for fruits under the school breakfast program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

SEC. 740. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used—

- (1) in contravention of section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5940), subtitle G of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, or section 10114 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018; or
- (2) to prohibit the transportation, processing, sale, or use of hemp, or seeds of such plant, that is grown or cultivated in accordance with section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 or subtitle G of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, within or outside the State in which the hemp is grown or cultivated.

SEC. 741. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the matching funds requirement under section 412(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632(g)).

SEC. 742. The Secretary, as part of the report on foreign landholding required under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (Public Law 95–460), shall report to Congress on foreign investments in agricultural land in the United States, including the impact foreign ownership has on family farms, rural communities, and the domestic food supply: *Provided*, That within 2 years after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a streamlined process for electronic submission and retention of disclosures made under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act, including an internet database that contains disaggregated data from each disclosure submitted: *Provided further*, That all prior year disclosures of foreign investments in agricultural land in the United States are published in the database: *Provided further*, That the plan includes a process to ensure the protection of personally identifiable information and that all disclosures of foreign investments in agricultural land on the USDA website be disaggregated by: (1) in any case in which such foreign person is an individual, the citizenship of such foreign person; and (2)

in any case in which such foreign person is not an individual or a government, the nature of the legal entity holding the interest, the country in which such foreign person is created or organized, and the principal place of business of such foreign person.

SEC. 743. There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, for a pilot program for the Secretary to provide grants to qualified non-profit organizations and public housing authorities to provide technical assistance, including financial and legal services, to RHS multi-family housing borrowers to facilitate the acquisition of RHS multi-family housing properties in areas where the Secretary determines a risk of loss of affordable housing, by non-profit housing organizations and public housing authorities as authorized by law that commit to keep such properties in the RHS multi-family housing program for a period of time as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 744. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available under the heading “Rural Housing Assistance Grants” for housing repair grants authorized by section 504 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1474), as amended, \$28,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 745. (a) After the effective date of any final rule the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) publishes in connection with its proposed rule to update these requirements (87 Federal Register 59168, issued on September 29, 2022), manufacturers may also continue to comply with the previous requirements promulgated by the FDA for the implied nutrient content claim “healthy” through the “compliance date” FDA provides in the final rule.

(b) Any food product manufactured and labeled as “healthy” during the compliance period FDA provides in that final rule shall not be directly or indirectly subject to any state-law requirements that are not identical to either (i) the Federal requirements for the implied nutrition content claim “healthy” that were in effect as of the date FDA issues the final rule, or (ii) the updated Federal requirements that FDA promulgates in the final rule, assuming the updated requirements go into effect during the regulatory compliance period.

SEC. 746. Funds made available under title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) may only be used to provide assistance to recipient nations if adequate monitoring and controls, as determined by the Administrator, are in place to ensure that emergency food aid is received by the intended beneficiaries in areas affected by food shortages and not diverted for unauthorized or inappropriate purposes.

SEC. 747. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to procure raw or processed poultry products or seafood imported into the United States from the People’s Republic of China for use in the school lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child and Adult Care Food Program under section 17 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), the Summer Food Service Program for Children under section 13 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1761), or the school breakfast program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

SEC. 748. For school year 2024–2025, only a school food authority that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2023, shall be required to establish a price for paid lunches in accordance with section 12(p) of the Richard B.

Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1760(p)).

SEC. 749. Any funds made available by this or any other Act that the Secretary withholds pursuant to section 1668(g)(2) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5921(g)(2)), as amended, shall be available for grants for biotechnology risk assessment research: *Provided*, That the Secretary may transfer such funds among appropriations of the Department of Agriculture for purposes of making such grants.

SEC. 750. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Department of Agriculture may be used to move any staff office or any agency from the mission area in which it was located on August 1, 2018, to any other mission area or office within the Department in the absence of the enactment of specific legislation affirming such move.

SEC. 751. The Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, may use funds appropriated under this Act or any other Act for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations Program and the Watershed Rehabilitation Program carried out pursuant to the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), and for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program carried out pursuant to section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2203) to provide technical services for such programs pursuant to section 1252(a)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3851(a)(1)), notwithstanding subsection (c) of such section.

SEC. 752. In administering the pilot program established by section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), the Secretary of Agriculture may, for purposes of determining entities eligible to receive assistance, consider those communities which are “Areas Rural in Character”: *Provided*, That not more than 10 percent of the funds made available under the heading “Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program” for the purposes of the pilot program established by section 779 of Public Law 115-141 may be used for this purpose.

SEC. 753. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act and notwithstanding the last sentence of 16 U.S.C. 1310, there is appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, to implement non-renewable agreements on eligible lands, including flooded agricultural lands, as determined by the Secretary, under the Water Bank Act (16 U.S.C. 1301-1311).

SEC. 754. Out of amounts appropriated to the Food and Drug Administration under title VI, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall, not later than September 30, 2024, and following the review required under Executive Order No. 12866 (5 U.S.C. 601 note; relating to regulatory planning and review), issue advice revising the advice provided in the notice of availability entitled “Advice About Eating Fish, From the Environmental Protection Agency and Food and Drug Administration; Revised Fish Advice; Availability” (82 Fed. Reg. 6571 (January 19, 2017)), in a manner that is consistent with nutrition science recognized by the Food and Drug Administration on the net effects of seafood consumption.

SEC. 755. In addition to amounts otherwise made available, there is hereby appropriated \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program established pursuant to section 1001(b)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) to award grants to processors of invasive, wild-caught catfish.

SEC. 756. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2024, an amount of funds made available in title III under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Housing Assistance Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Business Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account, equal to the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year any such funds were obligated under such headings for REAP Zones, excluding the funding provided through any Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending.

SEC. 757. In this fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement section 3.7(f) of the Farm Credit Act of 1971 in a manner inconsistent with section 343(a)(13) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.

SEC. 758. (a) For an additional amount for the Office of the Secretary, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out no more than 10 pilot projects, under the terms and conditions determined by the Secretary for a period not to exceed 2 years, that award grants to an Indian tribe; a tribal organization approved by an Indian tribe; a tribal educational agency; a consortium of Indian tribes; or a partnership between an Indian tribe and either a State educational agency, a local educational agency, a tribal educational agency, or the Bureau of Indian Education to operate and implement the school lunch program as authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769), the summer food service program as established under section 13 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, the child and adult care food program as established by section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, or the school breakfast program established by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) in either a Bureau-funded school (as defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021)); a school (as defined in section 12(d) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1760 (d)) on or near an Indian reservation; or an early child care and education facility: *Provided*, That to carry out this pilot program each grant awarded shall be no less than \$10,000 and no more than \$100,000 for each school year and shall not increase state administrative costs or the amount of benefits provided in any program: *Provided further*, That the term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pilot project grant recipient shall be reimbursed for meals served under the school lunch program, the summer food service program, and the child and adult care food program as if the recipient were a State under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act; and under the school breakfast program as if the recipient were a State educational agency.

(c) Not later than 1 year after the conclusion of the pilot program, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the outcomes of the pilot program.

SEC. 759. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to issue or promote any new guide-

lines or regulations applicable to food manufacturers for *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm) until the FDA considers the available new science in developing the Compliance Policy Guide (CPG), Guidance for FDA Staff, Sec. 55.320 *Listeria monocytogenes*—regarding Lm in low-risk foods, meaning foods that do not support the growth of Lm.

SEC. 760. Section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c) is amended in subsection (b)(1)(B) by striking “two years” and inserting “five years”.

SEC. 761. Section 524 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490d) is amended in subsection (a)(1) by striking “two years” and inserting “five years”.

SEC. 762. Section 363 of the Multifamily Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1981 (12 U.S.C. 3702) is amended at paragraph (10) by inserting after “Secretary of Housing Urban Development” the following: “and the Secretary of Agriculture”.

SEC. 763. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Food and Drug Administration to develop, issue, promote or advance any final guidelines or new regulations applicable to food manufacturers for long-term population-wide sodium reduction actions until an assessment is completed on the impact of the short-term sodium reduction targets.

SEC. 764. There is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for a Bison Production and Marketing Grant Program that the Agricultural Marketing Service shall develop and maintain: *Provided*, That this program shall be similar, as determined by the Secretary, to the Sheep Production and Marketing Grant Program the Department of Agriculture currently maintains pursuant to section 209(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627a(c)), and shall prioritize grants to national non-profits and federally chartered Tribal organizations that have expertise in bison production or marketing.

SEC. 765. Notwithstanding the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622 et seq.) and 9 CFR part 352, the Committee provides an additional \$700,000 to the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service to cover voluntary meat inspection fees for the slaughtering or processing of bison/buffalo at Native American owned establishments or establishments operating on tribal lands.

SEC. 766. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the Rural Water Operation Program under the heading “Natural Resources Conservation Service—Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations”, \$28,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 767. If services performed by APHIS employees are determined by the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to be in response to an animal disease outbreak, any premium pay that is funded, either directly or through reimbursement, shall be exempted from the aggregate of basic pay and premium pay calculated under section 5547 of title 5, United States Code, and any other provision of law limiting the aggregate amount of premium pay payable on a biweekly or calendar year basis: *Provided*, That this section shall take effect as if enacted on January 1, 2023.

SEC. 768. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel—

(1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);

(2) to inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and

Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104-127); or

(3) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

SEC. 769. Any rule-making, notice or guidance of or regarding USDA Proposed Rule (Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; RIN 0584-AE88) shall allow and provide meal reimbursement for (or “low fat or fat free”) flavored milk in National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade and in Child and Adult Care Food Program for participants 6 years of age and older, and for any other program complying with the meal pattern requirements covered in such final rule.

SEC. 770. Sodium limits in effect for School Year 2023-2024 in child nutrition meal patterns shall remain effective through School Year 2026-2027, after which sodium limits that may be included in any rulemaking, notice or guidance of or regarding USDA Proposed Rule (Child Nutrition Programs: Revisions to Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans; RIN 0584-AE88), shall not be more restrictive than the Target 2 sodium levels published in the final rule entitled “Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs” published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on January 26, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg 4087).

SEC. 771. There is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry out section 2103 of Public Law 115-334: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall prioritize the wetland compliance needs of areas with significant numbers of individual wetlands, wetland acres, and conservation compliance requests.

SEC. 772. There is appropriated \$3,000,000 for the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program established under section 12502(b) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (34 U.S.C. 20127).

SEC. 773. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) were tasked with providing findings and recommendations on alcohol consumption for the purposes of inclusion in the 2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans as required by Section 772 of Division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328): *Provided*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Agriculture shall consider the findings and recommendations of the NASEM report in the development of the 2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and further, both Secretaries shall ensure that the alcohol consumption recommendations in the 2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans shall be based on the preponderance of scientific and medical knowledge consistent with section 5341 of title 7 of United States Code.

SEC. 774. The first proviso under the heading “Rural Community Facilities Program Account” in title I of division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) is amended by inserting “or to repair or replace essential community facilities damaged by a disaster that occurred in calendar year 2023” after “calendar year 2022”: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 775. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for

the Rural Energy for American program authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, (7 U.S.C. 8107), \$10,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 776. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available in Section 2304 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2), \$30,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 777. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available under Division A, Title IV, under the heading “Nutrition Programs Administration” for relocation expenses and the alteration and repair of buildings and improvement pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31), \$8,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 778. Of the unobligated balances available in fiscal year 2024 in the “Nonrecurring Expenses Fund” established in section 742 of division A of Public Law 113-235, and in addition to any funds otherwise made available for such purposes in this, prior, or subsequent fiscal years, the following shall be available during the period of availability of the Fund for the specified purposes and in the specified amounts—

(1) for grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$505,023,927 for the purposes, and in the amounts specified in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and under the same authorities and conditions as amounts made available by this Act in the second paragraph under the heading “Rural Community Facilities Program Account”; and

(2) for expenses during fiscal year 2024, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years’ costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, \$68,476,073, under the same authorities and conditions as amounts made available by this Act under the heading “Food for Peace Title II Grants”: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 779. Section 2250b of title 7, United States Code, is hereby amended in the second proviso by striking “capital acquisition” and after “infrastructure” inserting “and information technology services.”

SEC. 780. Section 313B(a) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940c-2(a)), shall be applied for fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter until the specified funding has been expended as if the following were inserted after the final period: “In addition, the Secretary shall use \$9,465,000 of the funds available to carry out this section in fiscal year 2024 for an additional amount for the same purpose and under the same terms and conditions as the Rural Business Development Grants authorized by section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)).”

SEC. 781. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the acceptable market name of any engineered animal approved prior to the effective date of the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard (February 19, 2019) shall include the words “genetically engineered” prior to the existing acceptable market name.

SEC. 782. For an additional amount for the Office of the Secretary, \$6,000,000, to remain available until expended, to continue the Institute for Rural Partnerships as established in section 778 of Public Law 117-103: *Provided*, That the Institute for Rural Partnerships shall continue to dedicate resources to researching the causes and conditions of challenges facing rural areas, and develop community partnerships to address such challenges: *Provided further*, That administrative or other fees shall not exceed one percent: *Provided further*, That such partnership shall coordinate and publish an annual report.

SEC. 783. There is hereby appropriated \$500,000 to carry out the duties of the working group established under section 770 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6; 133 Stat. 89).

SEC. 784. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for conservation activities under the heading “Natural Resources Conservation Service—Conservation Operations”, \$30,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 785. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the “National Institute of Food and Agriculture—Research and Education Activities”, \$37,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 786. There is hereby appropriated \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, for section 306E(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to provide subgrants to eligible individuals for the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individually owned household decentralized wastewater systems.

SEC. 787. The Secretary of Agriculture shall be included as a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) on a case by case basis pursuant to the authorities in section 721(k)(2)(J) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565(k)(2)(J)) with respect to each covered transaction (as defined in section 721(a)(4) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565(a)(4))) involving agricultural land, agriculture biotechnology, or the agriculture industry (including agricultural transportation, agricultural storage, and agricultural processing), as determined by the CFIUS Chairperson in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the maximum extent practicable, notify the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States of any agricultural land transaction that the Secretary of Agriculture has reason to believe, based on information from or in cooperation with the Intelligence Community, is a covered transaction (A) that may pose a risk to the national security of the United States, with particular emphasis on covered transactions of an interest in agricultural land by foreign governments or entities of concern, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 19221(a), including the

People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and (B) with respect to which a person is required to submit a report to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 2(a) of the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 3501(a)): *Provided*, That there is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, in addition to amounts otherwise provided for such purpose, to carry out this section.

SEC. 788. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available in the "Working Capital Fund", \$78,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 789. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the "Community Connect Grant Program", \$30,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 790. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available under the heading "Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program", other than amounts made available for the Community Connect Grant Program, \$18,891,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 791. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for veterinary diagnostics under the heading "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Salaries and Expenses account", \$5,000,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 792. The agencies and offices of the Department of Agriculture may reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), out of the funds provided in this Act, for costs incurred by OGC in providing services to such agencies or offices under time-limited agreements entered into with such agencies and offices: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

SEC. 793. (a) Section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636i) is amended by striking "2023" and inserting "2024".

(b) Section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 note; Public Law 106-78) is amended by striking "2023" and inserting "2024".

This division may be cited as the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024".

DIVISION C—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for international trade activities of the Department of Com-

merce provided for by law, to carry out activities associated with facilitating, attracting, and retaining business investment in the United States, to carry out activities associated with title VI of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), and for engaging in trade promotional activities abroad, including expenses of grants and cooperative agreements for the purpose of promoting exports of United States firms, without regard to sections 3702 and 3703 of title 44, United States Code; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas and employees temporarily posted overseas; travel and transportation of employees of the International Trade Administration between two points abroad, without regard to section 40118 of title 49, United States Code; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services; recognizing contributions to export expansion pursuant to Executive Order 10978; rental of space abroad for periods not exceeding 10 years, and expenses of alteration, repair, or improvement; purchase or construction of temporary demountable exhibition structures for use abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed \$294,300 for official representation expenses abroad; purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use abroad, not to exceed \$45,000 per vehicle; not to exceed \$325,000 for purchase of armored vehicles without regard to the general purchase price limitations; obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles; and rental of tie lines, \$623,000,000, of which \$85,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$50,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That \$12,000,000 is to be derived from fees to be retained and used by the International Trade Administration, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That, of amounts provided under this heading, not less than \$16,400,000 shall be for China antidumping and countervailing duty enforcement and compliance activities: *Provided further*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities; and that for the purpose of this Act, contributions under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 shall include payment for assessments for services provided as part of these activities: *Provided further*, That, of amounts provided under this heading, up to \$3,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the purpose of carrying out a pilot fellowship program of the United States Commercial Service under which the Secretary of Commerce may make competitive grants to appropriate institutions of higher education or students to increase the level of knowledge and awareness of, and interest in employment with, that Service among minority students: *Provided further*, That any grants awarded under such program shall be made pursuant to regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary, which shall require as a condition of the initial receipt of grant funds, a commitment by prospective grantees to accept full-time employment in the Global Markets unit of the International Trade Administration upon the completion of participation in the program.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce, including costs associated with the performance of export administration field activities both domestically and abroad; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed \$13,500 for official representation expenses abroad; awards of compensation to informers under the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (subtitle B of title XVII of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019; Public Law 115-232; 132 Stat. 2208; 50 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.), and as authorized by section 1(b) of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 223; 22 U.S.C. 401(b)); and purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use and motor vehicles for law enforcement use with special requirement vehicles eligible for purchase without regard to any price limitation otherwise established by law, \$191,000,000, of which \$76,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading for activities under the "revised nonsecurity category", as defined in section 250(c)(4)(E) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177), as amended, \$20,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities: *Provided further*, That payments and contributions collected and accepted for materials or services provided as part of such activities may be retained for use in covering the cost of such activities, and for providing information to the public with respect to the export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce and other export control programs of the United States and other governments.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

For grants for economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, for trade adjustment assistance, and for grants authorized by sections 27, 28, and 30 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722, 3722a, and 3723), as amended, \$400,000,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$50,000,000 shall be for grants under section 27, \$41,000,000 shall be for grants under section 28, and \$2,500,000 shall be for grants under section 30: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$30,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, \$68,000,000: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be used to monitor projects approved pursuant to title I of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976; title II of the Trade Act of 1974; sections 27 through 30 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722–3723), as amended; and the Community Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1977.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Minority Business Development Agency in fostering, promoting, and developing minority business enterprises, as authorized by law, \$68,250,000.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, of economic and statistical analysis programs of the Department of Commerce, \$125,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing, and publishing statistics, provided for by law, \$328,500,000: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing, and publishing statistics for periodic censuses and programs provided for by law, \$1,054,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as provided for by law, of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), \$57,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1535(d), the Secretary of Commerce shall charge Federal agencies for costs incurred in spectrum management, analysis, operations, and related services, and such fees shall be retained and used as offsetting collections for costs of such spectrum services, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to retain and use as offsetting collections all funds transferred, or previously transferred, from other Government agencies for all costs incurred in telecommunications research, engineering, and related activities by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of NTIA, in furtherance of its assigned functions under this paragraph, and such funds received from other Government agencies shall remain available until expended.

PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES,
PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

For the administration of prior-year grants, recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated are available for the administration of all open grants until their expiration.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for the design, construction, alteration, improvement, maintenance, and repair of buildings and facilities managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, not

otherwise provided for, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK
OFFICESALARIES AND EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) provided for by law, including defense of suits instituted against the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, \$4,195,799,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as offsetting collections of fees and surcharges assessed and collected by the USPTO under any law are received during fiscal year 2024, so as to result in a fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2024, should the total amount of such offsetting collections be less than \$4,195,799,000, this amount shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That any amount received in excess of \$4,195,799,000 in fiscal year 2024 and deposited in the Patent and Trademark Fee Reserve Fund shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Director of USPTO shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any amounts made available by the preceding proviso and such spending plan shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That any amounts reprogrammed in accordance with the preceding proviso shall be transferred to the United States Patent and Trademark Office “Salaries and Expenses” account: *Provided further*, That the budget of the President submitted for fiscal year 2025 under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, shall include within amounts provided under this heading for necessary expenses of the USPTO any increases that are expected to result from an increase promulgated through rule or regulation in offsetting collections of fees and surcharges assessed and collected by the USPTO under any law in either fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025: *Provided further*, That from amounts provided herein, not to exceed \$13,500 shall be made available in fiscal year 2024 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2024 from the amounts made available for “Salaries and Expenses” for the USPTO, the amounts necessary to pay (1) the difference between the percentage of basic pay contributed by the USPTO and employees under section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code, and the normal cost percentage (as defined by section 8331(17) of that title) as provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for USPTO’s specific use, of basic pay, of employees subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of that title, and (2) the present value of the otherwise unfunded accruing costs, as determined by OPM for USPTO’s specific use of post-retirement life insurance and post-retirement health benefits coverage for all USPTO employees who are enrolled in Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), shall be transferred to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, the FEGLI Fund, and the Employees FEHB Fund, as appropriate, and shall be available for the authorized purposes of those accounts: *Provided further*, That any differences between the present value factors published in OPM’s yearly 300 series benefit letters and the factors that OPM provides for USPTO’s

specific use shall be recognized as an imputed cost on USPTO’s financial statements, where applicable: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all fees and surcharges assessed and collected by USPTO are available for USPTO only pursuant to section 42(c) of title 35, United States Code, as amended by section 22 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29): *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, \$2,450,000 shall be transferred to the “Office of Inspector General” account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the USPTO.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND
TECHNOLOGY
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND
SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), \$1,080,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$9,000,000 may be transferred to the “Working Capital Fund”: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$222,841,000 shall be made available for the NIST—STRS projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available for the projects referenced in the preceding proviso may not be transferred for any other purpose: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$5,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That NIST may provide local transportation for summer undergraduate research fellowship program participants.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

For necessary expenses for industrial technology services, \$212,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$175,000,000 shall be for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and of which \$37,000,000 shall be for the Manufacturing USA Program.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

For construction of new research facilities, including architectural and engineering design, and for renovation and maintenance of existing facilities, not otherwise provided for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as authorized by sections 13 through 15 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278c–278e), \$168,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$80,242,000 shall be made available for the NIST—Construction projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That up to one percent of amounts made available for the projects referenced in the preceding proviso may be used for the administrative costs of such projects: *Provided further*, That the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any amounts made available by the preceding proviso and such spending plan shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided*

further, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in the budget justification materials for fiscal year 2025 that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Institute of Standards and Technology construction project having a total multi-year program cost of more than \$5,000,000, and simultaneously the budget justification materials shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of activities authorized by law for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), including maintenance, operation, and hire of aircraft and vessels; pilot programs for State-led fisheries management, notwithstanding any other provision of law; grants, contracts, or other payments to nonprofit organizations for the purposes of conducting activities pursuant to cooperative agreements; and relocation of facilities, \$4,548,485,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That fees and donations received by the National Ocean Service for the management of national marine sanctuaries may be retained and used for the salaries and expenses associated with those activities, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in addition, \$369,522,000 shall be derived by transfer from the fund entitled "Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries", which shall only be used for fishery activities related to the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program; Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys, and Assessments; Observers and Training; Fisheries Management Programs and Services; and Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$71,299,000 shall be for payment to the "Department of Commerce Working Capital Fund": *Provided further*, That of the \$4,946,007,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$4,548,485,000 is appropriated from the general fund, \$369,522,000 is provided by transfer, and \$28,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$139,499,000 shall be made available for the NOAA—CZM and NOAA—ORF projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available for the projects referenced in the preceding proviso may not be transferred for any other purpose: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That in addition, for necessary retired pay expenses under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plan, and for payments for the medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under the Dependents' Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. ch. 55), such sums as may be necessary.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For procurement, acquisition and construction of capital assets, including alteration and modification costs, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, \$1,719,866,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, except that funds provided for acquisition and construction of vessels and aircraft, and construction of facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available in the matter preceding this proviso, \$100,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That in addition, \$44,000,000 shall be derived by transfer for the purposes provided under this heading from the unobligated balances in the Fund established in section 111(a) of division B of Public Law 116-93: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be transferred pursuant to the preceding proviso from amounts made available in section 101(e)(1) of title I of division A of Public Law 118-5: *Provided further*, That of the \$1,776,866,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$1,719,866,000 is appropriated from the general fund, \$13,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations, and \$44,000,000 is provided by transfer: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in budget justification materials for fiscal year 2025 that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration procurement, acquisition or construction project having a total of more than \$5,000,000 and simultaneously the budget justification shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

For necessary expenses associated with the restoration of Pacific salmon populations, \$65,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That, of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of Commerce may issue grants to the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and to the federally recognized Tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific Coast (including Alaska), for projects necessary for conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or that are identified by a State as at-risk to be so listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of Tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, based on guidelines to be developed by the Secretary of Commerce: *Provided further*, That all funds shall be allocated based on scientific and other merit principles and shall not be available for marketing activities: *Provided further*, That funds disbursed to States shall be subject to a matching requirement of funds or documented in-kind contributions of at least 33 percent of the Federal funds.

FISHERIES DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses of administering the fishery disaster assistance programs au-

thorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Public Law 94-265) and the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (title III of Public Law 99-659), \$300,000.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

For carrying out the provisions of title IV of Public Law 95-372, not to exceed \$349,000, to be derived from receipts collected pursuant to that Act, to remain available until expended.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2024, obligations of direct loans may not exceed \$24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and not to exceed \$150,000,000 for traditional direct loans as authorized by the Merchant Marine Act of 1936.

RECREATIONAL QUOTA ENTITY FUND

For carrying out the provisions of section 106 of the Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act (title I of division S of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328)), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may assess and collect fees pursuant to such section, which shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, for the purposes specified in subsection (b) of such section, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the management of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, including not to exceed \$4,500 for official reception and representation, \$94,500,000: *Provided*, That no employee of the Department of Commerce may be detailed or assigned from a bureau or office funded by this Act or any other Act to offices within the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Commerce for more than 180 days in a fiscal year unless the individual's employing bureau or office is fully reimbursed for the salary and expenses of the employee for the entire period of assignment using funds provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That amounts made available to the Department of Commerce in this or any prior Act may not be transferred pursuant to section 508 of this or any prior Act to the account funded under this heading, except in the case of extraordinary circumstances that threaten life or property.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for the renovation and modernization of the Herbert C. Hoover Building, \$1,142,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), \$48,000,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations and funds made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act shall be available for the activities specified in the Act of October 26, 1949 (15 U.S.C. 1514), to the extent and in the manner prescribed by the Act, and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3324, may be used for advanced payments not otherwise authorized only upon the certification of officials designated by the Secretary of Commerce that such payments are in the public interest.

SEC. 102. During the current fiscal year, appropriations made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act for salaries and expenses shall be available for hire of

passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 103. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Commerce in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance of the acquisition or disposal of any capital asset (including land, structures, and equipment) not specifically provided for in this Act or any other law appropriating funds for the Department of Commerce.

SEC. 104. The requirements set forth by section 105 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), as amended by section 105 of title I of division B of Public Law 113–6, are hereby adopted by reference and made applicable with respect to fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That the life cycle cost for the Joint Polar Satellite System is \$11,322,125,000, the life cycle cost of the Polar Follow On Program is \$6,837,900,000, the life cycle cost for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series Program is \$11,700,100,000, and the life cycle cost for the Space Weather Follow On Program is \$692,800,000.

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Commerce may furnish services (including but not limited to utilities, telecommunications, and security services) necessary to support the operation, maintenance, and improvement of space that persons, firms, or organizations are authorized, pursuant to the Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976 or other authority, to use or occupy in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Washington, DC, or other buildings, the maintenance, operation, and protection of which has been delegated to the Secretary from the Administrator of General Services pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. Amounts received as reimbursement for services provided under this section or the authority under which the use or occupancy of the space is authorized, up to \$200,000, shall be credited to the appropriation or fund which initially bears the costs of such services.

SEC. 106. Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a grant recipient from deterring child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over its networks.

SEC. 107. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is authorized to use, with their consent, with reimbursement and subject to the limits of available appropriations, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or of any State, local government, Indian Tribal government, Territory, or possession, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government or international organization, for purposes related to carrying out the responsibilities of any statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SEC. 108. The National Technical Information Service shall not charge any customer

for a copy of any report or document generated by the Legislative Branch unless the Service has provided information to the customer on how an electronic copy of such report or document may be accessed and downloaded for free online. Should a customer still require the Service to provide a printed or digital copy of the report or document, the charge shall be limited to recovering the Service's cost of processing, reproducing, and delivering such report or document.

SEC. 109. To carry out the responsibilities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Administrator of NOAA is authorized to: (1) enter into grants and cooperative agreements with; (2) use on a non-reimbursable basis land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities provided by; and (3) receive and expend funds made available on a consensual basis from: a Federal agency, State or subdivision thereof, local government, Tribal government, Territory, or possession or any subdivisions thereof: *Provided*, That funds received for permitting and related regulatory activities pursuant to this section shall be deposited under the heading “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Operations, Research, and Facilities” and shall remain available until September 30, 2025, for such purposes: *Provided further*, That all funds within this section and their corresponding uses are subject to section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 110. Amounts provided by this Act or by any prior appropriations Act that remain available for obligation, for necessary expenses of the programs of the Economics and Statistics Administration of the Department of Commerce, including amounts provided for programs of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Bureau of the Census, shall be available for expenses of cooperative agreements with appropriate entities, including any Federal, State, or local governmental unit, or institution of higher education, to aid and promote statistical, research, and methodology activities which further the purposes for which such amounts have been made available.

SEC. 111. The Secretary of Commerce, or the designee of the Secretary, may waive up to 50 percent of the cost sharing requirements under section 315, of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1461) as necessary at the request of the grant applicant, for amounts made available under this Act under the heading “Procurement, Acquisition and Construction” under the heading “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration”.

SEC. 112. Any unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds transferred to the Department of Commerce Nonrecurring Expenses Fund, as authorized by section 111 of title I of division B of Public Law 116–93, may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SEC. 113. The Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere is authorized to designate one or more Cooperative Aviation Centers for the purposes of recruiting aviators for the NOAA commissioned officer corps from institutions that provide a four-year baccalaureate program of professional flight and piloting instruction that is accredited by the Aviation Accreditation Board International: *Provided*, That Cooperative Aviation Centers shall be located in a geographic area that experiences a wide variation in climate-related activity, such as frequent high winds, convective activity (including tornadoes), periods of low visibility, heat, and snow and ice episodes, to provide opportunities for pilots to demonstrate skill in all weather conditions compatible with fu-

ture encounters during their service in the commissioned officer corps of the Administration.

SEC. 114. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may accept payments from a non-Federal party during fiscal year 2024 for the purpose of altering or replacing fencing, and related activities, for the Administration's port facility in Ketchikan, Alaska. Amounts accepted under this section may be credited to the appropriation account otherwise available for such purpose and shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 115. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in consultation with the employees of the National Weather Service and non-governmental experts in personnel management, may establish an alternative or fixed rate for relocation allowance, including permanent change of station allowance, notwithstanding the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 5724 and the regulations prescribed under 5 U.S.C. 5738.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 2024”.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUSTICE OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT, AND ACCOUNTABILITY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the operations, management, and accountability of the Department of Justice, \$142,000,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which not to exceed \$4,000,000 for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any reference to the Department of Justice's “General Administration” appropriations heading (including references that include its subheadings) which appears in any rule, regulation, provision, law, or other official document, shall hereafter be deemed a reference to the Department of Justice's “Justice Operations, Management, and Accountability” appropriations heading.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for information sharing technology, including planning, development, deployment and departmental direction, \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer up to \$40,000,000 to this account, from funds available to the Department of Justice for information technology, to remain available until expended, for enterprise-wide information technology initiatives: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority in the preceding proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the first proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the administration of immigration-related activities of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, \$844,000,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Executive Office for Immigration Review fees deposited in the “Immigration Examinations Fee” account, and of which not less than \$28,000,000 shall be available for services and activities provided by the Legal Orientation Program: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$50,000,000 of the total amount made available under this heading

shall remain available until September 30, 2028, for build-out and modifications of courtroom space.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$139,000,000, including not to exceed \$10,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$4,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Parole Commission as authorized, \$14,000,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the expiration of a term of office of a Commissioner, the Commissioner may continue to act until a successor has been appointed.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL
ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the legal activities of the Department of Justice, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed \$20,000 for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General; the administration of pardon and clemency petitions; and rent of private or Government-owned space in the District of Columbia, \$1,090,000,000, of which not to exceed \$50,000,000 for litigation support contracts and information technology projects, including cybersecurity and hardening of critical networks, shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided for INTERPOL Washington dues payments, not to exceed \$900,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$8,900 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$8,900 shall be available to the Criminal Division for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for litigation activities of the Civil Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to "Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities" from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10305) and to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading for the election monitoring program, \$3,390,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any funds provided under this heading in prior year appropriations Acts that remain available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10305) may also be used to carry out any au-

thorized purposes of the Civil Rights Division: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed by the preceding proviso may not be used to increase the number of permanent positions.

In addition, for reimbursement of expenses of the Department of Justice associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, \$22,700,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund and to remain available until expended.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

For expenses necessary for the enforcement of antitrust and kindred laws, \$233,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$233,000,000 to be derived from fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2024, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 605 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1990 (15 U.S.C. 18a note), none of the funds credited to this account as offsetting collections during the current fiscal year shall become available for obligation in any fiscal year except as provided in the preceding two provisos or as provided in a subsequent appropriations Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES
ATTORNEYS

For necessary expenses of the Offices of the United States Attorneys, including intergovernmental and cooperative agreements, \$2,611,000,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$19,600 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$40,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each United States Attorney shall establish or participate in a task force on human trafficking.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses of the United States Trustee Program, as authorized, \$245,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, deposits of discretionary offsetting collections to the United States Trustee System Fund and amounts herein appropriated shall be available in such amounts as may be necessary to pay refunds due depositors: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, fees deposited into the Fund as discretionary offsetting collections pursuant to section 589a of title 28, United States Code (as limited by section 589a(f)(2) of title 28, United States Code), shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That to the extent that fees deposited into the Fund as discretionary offsetting collections in fiscal year 2024, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, exceed \$245,000,000, those excess amounts shall be available in future fiscal years only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the gen-

eral fund shall be reduced (1) as such fees are received during fiscal year 2024, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, (estimated at \$230,000,000) and (2) to the extent that any remaining general fund appropriations can be derived from amounts deposited in the Fund as discretionary offsetting collections in previous fiscal years that are not otherwise appropriated, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$15,000,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS
SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$2,504,000.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

For fees and expenses of witnesses, for expenses of contracts for the procurement and supervision of expert witnesses, for private counsel expenses, including advances, and for expenses of foreign counsel, \$270,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$16,000,000 is for construction of buildings for protected witness safesites; not to exceed \$3,000,000 is for the purchase and maintenance of armored and other vehicles for witness security caravans; and not to exceed \$35,000,000 is for the purchase, installation, maintenance, and upgrade of secure telecommunications equipment and a secure automated information network to store and retrieve the identities and locations of protected witnesses: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may not be transferred pursuant to section 205 of this Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY
RELATIONS SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Community Relations Service, \$24,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for conflict resolution and violence prevention activities of the Community Relations Service, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to the Community Relations Service, from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

For expenses authorized by subparagraphs (B), (F), and (G) of section 524(c)(1) of title 28, United States Code, \$20,514,000, to be derived from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Marshals Service, \$1,692,000,000, of which not to exceed \$20,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$163,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction in space that is controlled, occupied, or utilized by the United

States Marshals Service for prisoner holding and related support, \$15,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

For necessary expenses related to United States prisoners in the custody of the United States Marshals Service as authorized by section 4013 of title 18, United States Code, \$2,100,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$250,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be considered "funds appropriated for State and local law enforcement assistance" pursuant to section 4013(b) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Marshals Service shall be responsible for managing the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the National Security Division, \$128,000,000, of which not to exceed \$5,000,000 for information technology systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for the activities of the National Security Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to this heading from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

ORGANIZED CRIME DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCES

For necessary expenses for the identification, investigation, and prosecution of individuals associated with the most significant drug trafficking organizations, transnational organized crime, and money laundering organizations not otherwise provided for, to include inter-governmental agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies engaged in the investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, \$547,000,000, of which \$50,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any amounts obligated from appropriations under this heading may be used under authorities available to the organizations reimbursed from this appropriation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes against the United States, \$10,643,713,000, of which not to exceed \$216,900,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$279,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses, to include the cost of equipment, furniture, and information technology requirements, related to construction or acquisition of buildings, facilities, and sites by purchase, or as otherwise authorized by law; conversion, modification,

and extension of federally owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects; and operation and maintenance of secure work environment facilities and secure networking capabilities; \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration, including not to exceed \$70,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character pursuant to section 530C of title 28, United States Code; and expenses for conducting drug education and training programs, including travel and related expenses for participants in such programs and the distribution of items of token value that promote the goals of such programs, \$2,567,000,000, of which not to exceed \$75,000,000 shall remain available until expended and not to exceed \$90,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$328,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 3672 of Public Law 106-310, up to \$10,000,000 may be used to reimburse States, units of local government, Indian Tribal Governments, other public entities, and multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia thereof for expenses incurred to clean up and safely dispose of substances associated with clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, conversion and extraction operations, tableting operations, or laboratories and processing operations for fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances which may present a danger to public health or the environment.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection; and for provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, \$1,625,000,000, of which not to exceed \$35,650 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the payment of attorneys' fees as provided by section 924(d)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and not to exceed \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be available to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to investigate and act upon applications filed by corporations for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to other agencies or Departments.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Prison System for the administration, operation, and maintenance of Federal penal and cor-

rectional institutions, and for the provision of technical assistance and advice on corrections related issues to foreign governments, \$8,392,588,000: *Provided*, That not less than \$409,483,000 shall be for the programs and activities authorized by the First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391), of which not less than 2 percent shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Research, Evaluation and Statistics" for the National Institute of Justice to carry out evaluations of programs and activities related to the First Step Act of 2018: *Provided further*, That the Attorney General may transfer to the Department of Health and Human Services such amounts as may be necessary for direct expenditures by that Department for medical relief for inmates of Federal penal and correctional institutions: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System, where necessary, may enter into contracts with a fiscal agent or fiscal intermediary claims processor to determine the amounts payable to persons who, on behalf of the Federal Prison System, furnish health services to individuals committed to the custody of the Federal Prison System: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$5,400 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$50,000,000 shall remain available until expended for necessary operations: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided for contract confinement, not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall remain available until expended to make payments in advance for grants, contracts and reimbursable agreements, and other expenses: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System may accept donated property and services relating to the operation of the prison card program from a not-for-profit entity which has operated such program in the past, notwithstanding the fact that such not-for-profit entity furnishes services under contracts to the Federal Prison System relating to the operation of pre-release services, halfway houses, or other custodial facilities: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading for programs and activities related to the First Step Act may not be transferred, or otherwise made available, to or for administration by the Department of Labor.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For planning, acquisition of sites, and construction of new facilities; purchase and acquisition of facilities and remodeling, and equipping of such facilities for penal and correctional use, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account; and constructing, remodeling, and equipping necessary buildings and facilities at existing penal and correctional institutions, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account, \$179,762,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$30,000,000 shall be available only for costs related to construction of new facilities: *Provided*, That labor of United States prisoners may be used for work performed under this appropriation.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, is hereby authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available, and in accord with the law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the program set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

Not to exceed \$2,700,000 of the funds of the Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated,

1968 Act”); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) (“the 2005 Act”); the American Law Enforcement Heroes Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-37); the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (Public Law 115-113) (“the LEMHW Act”); the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115-271); the Supporting and Treating Officers In Crisis Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-32) (“the STOIC Act”); and the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-325), \$664,516,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any balances made available through prior year deobligations shall only be available in accordance with section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading—

(1) \$256,168,839 is for grants under section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (34 U.S.C. 10381) for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers under part Q of such title notwithstanding subsection (i) of such section: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(c) of such title (34 U.S.C. 10384(c)), funding for hiring or rehiring a career law enforcement officer may not exceed \$125,000 unless the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grants a waiver from this limitation: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$34,000,000 is for improving Tribal law enforcement, including hiring, equipment, training, anti-methamphetamine activities, and anti-opioid activities: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$44,000,000 is for regional information sharing activities, as authorized by part M of title I of the 1968 Act, which shall be transferred to and merged with “Research, Evaluation, and Statistics” for administration by the Office of Justice Programs: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, no less than \$4,000,000 is to support the Tribal Access Program: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$10,000,000 is for training, peer mentoring, mental health program activities, and other support services as authorized under the LEMHW Act and the STOIC Act: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, \$7,500,000 is for the collaborative reform model of technical assistance in furtherance of section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (34 U.S.C. 10381);

(2) \$12,000,000 is for activities authorized by the POLICE Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-199);

(3) \$16,000,000 is for competitive grants to State law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers;

(4) \$35,000,000 is for competitive grants to statewide law enforcement agencies in States with high rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and other opioids: *Provided*, That these funds shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, or unlawful heroin and prescription opioid traffickers through statewide collaboration;

(5) \$53,000,000 is for competitive grants to be administered by the Community Oriented Policing Services Office for purposes authorized under the STOP School Violence Act (title V of division S of Public Law 115-141);

(6) \$25,000,000 is for community policing development activities in furtherance of sec-

tion 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (34 U.S.C. 10381);

(7) \$247,347,161 is for a law enforcement technologies and interoperable communications program, and related law enforcement and public safety equipment, which shall be made available for the COPS Tech projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such amounts may not be transferred for any other purpose: *Provided further*, That grants funded by such amounts shall not be subject to section 1703 of title I of the 1968 Act (34 U.S.C. 10383); and

(8) \$20,000,000 is for activities authorized by the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-325).

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. In addition to amounts otherwise made available in this title for official reception and representation expenses, a total of not to exceed \$50,000 from funds appropriated to the Department of Justice in this title shall be available to the Attorney General for official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 202. None of the funds appropriated by this title shall be available to pay for an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or in the case of rape or incest: *Provided*, That should this prohibition be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this section shall be null and void.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated under this title shall be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 204. Nothing in the preceding section shall remove the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services necessary for a female inmate to receive such service outside the Federal facility: *Provided*, That nothing in this section in any way diminishes the effect of section 203 intended to address the philosophical beliefs of individual employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to the following—

(1) paragraph 1(R) under the heading “State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance”; and

(2) paragraph (7) under the heading “Community Oriented Policing Services Programs”.

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available under this title may be used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service for the purpose of transporting an individual who is a prisoner pursuant to conviction for crime under State or Federal law and is classified as a maximum or high security prisoner, other than to a prison or other facility certified by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure for housing such a prisoner.

SEC. 207. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by Federal prisons to purchase cable television services, or to rent or purchase audiovisual or electronic media or equipment used primarily for recreational purposes.

(b) Subsection (a) does not preclude the rental, maintenance, or purchase of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment for inmate training, religious, or educational programs.

SEC. 208. None of the funds made available under this title shall be obligated or expended for any new or enhanced information technology program having total estimated development costs in excess of \$100,000,000, unless the Deputy Attorney General and the investment review board certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the information technology program has appropriate program management controls and contractor oversight mechanisms in place, and that the program is compatible with the enterprise architecture of the Department of Justice.

SEC. 209. The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act shall apply to deviations from the amounts designated for specific activities in this Act and in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this title in previous years.

SEC. 210. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to plan for, begin, continue, finish, process, or approve a public-private competition under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 or any successor administrative regulation, directive, or policy for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

SEC. 211. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds shall be available for the salary, benefits, or expenses of any United States Attorney assigned dual or additional responsibilities by the Attorney General or his designee that exempt that United States Attorney from the residency requirements of section 545 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 212. At the discretion of the Attorney General, and in addition to any amounts that otherwise may be available (or authorized to be made available) by law, with respect to funds appropriated by this title under the headings “Research, Evaluation and Statistics”, “State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance”, and “Juvenile Justice Programs”—

(1) up to 2 percent of funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs for grant or reimbursement programs may be used by such Office to provide training and technical assistance; and

(2) up to 2 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs under such headings, except for amounts appropriated specifically for research, evaluation, or statistical programs administered by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, shall be transferred to and merged with funds provided to the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, to be used by them for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs.

This section shall not apply to paragraph 1(R) under the heading “State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance”.

SEC. 213. Upon request by a grantee for whom the Attorney General has determined there is a fiscal hardship, the Attorney General may, with respect to funds appropriated in this or any other Act making appropriations for fiscal years 2021 through 2024 for the

following programs, waive the following requirements:

(1) For the adult and juvenile offender State and local reentry demonstration projects under part FF of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10631 et seq.), the requirements under section 2976(g)(1) of such part (34 U.S.C. 10631(g)(1)).

(2) For grants to protect inmates and safeguard communities as authorized by section 6 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (34 U.S.C. 30305(c)(3)), the requirements of section 6(c)(3) of such Act.

SEC. 214. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 20109(a) of subtitle A of title II of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12109(a)) shall not apply to amounts made available by this or any other Act.

SEC. 215. None of the funds made available under this Act, other than for the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (34 U.S.C. 40901), may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel, unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 216. (a) None of the income retained in the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102-140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2024, except up to \$12,000,000 may be obligated for implementation of a unified Department of Justice financial management system.

(b) Not to exceed \$30,000,000 of the unobligated balances transferred to the capital account of the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102-140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation in fiscal year 2024, and any use, obligation, transfer, or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

(c) Not to exceed \$10,000,000 of the excess unobligated balances available under section 524(c)(8)(E) of title 28, United States Code, shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2024, and any use, obligation, transfer or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 217. Discretionary funds that are made available in this Act for the Office of Justice Programs may be used to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots authorized under such authorities as have been enacted for Performance Partnership Pilots in appropriations acts in prior fiscal years and the current fiscal year.

SEC. 218. The Attorney General shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate quarterly reports on the Crime Victims Fund, the Working Capital Fund, the Three Percent Fund, and the Asset Forfeiture Fund. Such quarterly reports shall contain at least the same level of information and detail for each Fund as was provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in fiscal year 2023.

SEC. 219. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to conduct, contract for, or otherwise support, live tissue training, unless the Attorney General issues a written, non-delegable determination that such training is medically necessary and cannot be replicated by alternatives.

SEC. 220. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department

of Justice to target or investigate parents who peacefully protest at school board meetings and are not suspected of engaging in unlawful activity.

SEC. 221. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to investigate or prosecute religious institutions on the basis of their religious beliefs.

SEC. 222. Of the unobligated balances from amounts in the fund established by section 9006(a) of title 26, United States Code, \$25,000,000 shall be paid to the "Office of Justice Programs—State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance" appropriation, to remain available until expended, for an additional amount for grants for law enforcement activities associated with the presidential nominating conventions, under the same authorities and conditions as amounts made available in paragraph (1)(Q) under the heading "Office of Justice Programs—State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance" in this Act.

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

TITLE III

SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in carrying out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, not to exceed \$2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$7,965,000.

NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

For necessary expenses of the National Space Council, in carrying out the purposes of title V of Public Law 100-685 and Executive Order No. 13803, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, not to exceed \$2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, \$1,965,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the National Space Council may accept personnel support from Federal agencies, departments, and offices, and such Federal agencies, departments, and offices may detail staff without reimbursement to the National Space Council for purposes provided herein.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE

ADMINISTRATION

SCIENCE

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$7,334,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

AERONAUTICS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aeronautics research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; per-

sonnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$935,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space technology research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$1,100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

EXPLORATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of exploration research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$7,666,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$450,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, concurrent with the annual budget submission, a 5-year budget profile for an integrated system that includes the Space Launch System, the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, and associated ground systems that will ensure a crewed launch as early as possible.

SPACE OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space operations research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support and services; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities, including operations, production, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$4,220,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS ENGAGEMENT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aerospace and aeronautical education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support,

and services; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$143,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$26,000,000 shall be for the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and \$58,000,000 shall be for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science, aeronautics, space technology, exploration, space operations and education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$63,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$3,129,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That if available balances in the “Science, Space, and Technology Education Trust Fund” are not sufficient to provide for the grant disbursements required under the third and fourth provisos under such heading in the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989 (Public Law 100-404) as amended by the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995 (Public Law 103-327), up to \$1,000,000 shall be available from amounts made available under this heading to make such grant disbursements: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$56,673,000 shall be made available for the SSMS projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available for the projects referenced in the preceding proviso may not be transferred for any other purpose.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, revitalization, and modification of facilities, construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, facility planning and design, and restoration, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law, and environmental compliance and restoration, \$300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2029: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$250,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That proceeds from leases deposited into this account shall be available for a period of 5 years to the extent and in amounts as provided in annual appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That such proceeds referred to in the preceding proviso shall be available for obligation for fiscal year 2024 in an amount not to exceed

\$30,000,000: *Provided further*, That each annual budget request shall include an annual estimate of gross receipts and collections and proposed use of all funds collected pursuant to section 20145 of title 51, United States Code.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$47,600,000, of which \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds for any announced prize otherwise authorized shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until a prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn.

Not to exceed 10 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 20 percent by any such transfers. Any funds transferred to “Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration” for construction activities shall not increase that account by more than 20 percent. Balances so transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation provided for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under previous appropriations Acts that remains available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024 may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall retain its original availability and shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

The spending plan required by this Act shall be provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the theme, program, project, and activity level. The spending plan, as well as any subsequent change of an amount established in that spending plan that meets the notification requirements of section 505 of this Act, shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

Not more than 20 percent or \$50,000,000, whichever is less, of the amounts made available in the current-year Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration (CECR) appropriation may be applied to CECR projects funded under previous years’ CECR appropriations. Use of current-year funds under this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

Of the amounts made available in this Act under the heading “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Engagement” (“STEM Engagement”), up to \$5,000,000 shall be available to jointly fund, with an additional amount of up to \$1,000,000 each from

amounts made available in this Act under the headings “Science”, “Aeronautics”, “Space Technology”, “Exploration”, and “Space Operations”, projects and activities for engaging students in STEM and increasing STEM research capacities of universities, including Minority Serving Institutions.

Not to exceed \$32,600,000 made available for the current fiscal year in this Act within “Safety, Security and Mission Services” may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Balances so transferred shall be available until expended only for activities described in section 30102(b)(3) of title 51, United States Code, as amended by this Act, and shall remain available until expended. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31) under the heading “National Aeronautics and Space Administration—Space Operations” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2018 are to remain available through fiscal year 2027 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) under the heading “National Aeronautics and Space Administration—Space Operations” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2019 are to remain available through fiscal year 2027 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), and Public Law 86-209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.); services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; maintenance and operation of aircraft and purchase of flight services for research support; acquisition of aircraft; and authorized travel; \$7,176,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$680,000,000 shall remain available until expended for polar research and operations support, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for operational and science support and logistical and other related activities for the United States Antarctic program: *Provided further*, That of the amounts in the preceding proviso, not less than \$109,310,000 shall be for U.S. Antarctic Logistical Support: *Provided further*, That receipts for scientific support services and materials furnished by the National Research Centers and other National Science Foundation supported research facilities may be credited to this appropriation.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for the acquisition, construction, commissioning, and upgrading of major research equipment, facilities, and other such capital assets pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including authorized travel, \$234,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$234,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

STEM EDUCATION

For necessary expenses in carrying out science, mathematics, and engineering education and human resources programs and activities pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, authorized travel, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$1,172,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

For agency operations and award management necessary in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia; and reimbursement of the Department of Homeland Security for security guard services; \$448,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$8,280 is for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That contracts may be entered into under this heading in fiscal year 2024 for maintenance and operation of facilities and for other services to be provided during the next fiscal year.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) involved in carrying out section 4 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863) and Public Law 86–209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), \$5,090,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$24,410,000, of which \$1,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Science Foundation in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers. Any transfer pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

The Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 30 days in advance of any planned divestment through transfer, decommissioning, termination, or deconstruction of any NSF-owned facilities or any NSF capital assets (including land, structures, and equipment) valued greater than \$2,500,000.

This title may be cited as the “Science Appropriations Act, 2024”.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Civil Rights, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$14,350,000: *Provided*, That

none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used to employ any individuals under Schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations exclusive of one special assistant for each Commissioner: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to reimburse Commissioners for more than 75 billable days, with the exception of the chairperson, who is permitted 125 billable days: *Provided further*, That the Chair may accept and use any gift or donation to carry out the work of the Commission: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used for any activity or expense that is not explicitly authorized by section 3 of the Civil Rights Commission Act of 1983 (42 U.S.C. 1975a): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the preceding proviso, \$2,000,000 shall be used to separately fund the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as authorized by title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008 (Public Law 110–233), the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–325), and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–2), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code; nonmonetary awards to private citizens; and up to \$31,500,000 for payments to State and local enforcement agencies for authorized services to the Commission, \$455,000,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$2,250 from available funds: *Provided further*, That the Commission may take no action to implement any workforce repositioning, restructuring, or reorganization until such time as the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate have been notified of such proposals, in accordance with the reprogramming requirements of section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Chair may accept and use any gift or donation to carry out the work of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the International Trade Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed \$2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, \$122,000,000, to remain available until expended.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES
CORPORATION

For payment to the Legal Services Corporation to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act of 1974, \$560,000,000, of which \$516,100,000 is for basic field programs and required independent audits; \$5,700,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, of which such amounts as may be necessary may be used to conduct additional audits of recipients; \$26,200,000 is for management and grants oversight; \$5,000,000 is for client self-help and information technology; \$5,000,000 is for a Pro Bono Innovation Fund;

and \$2,000,000 is for loan repayment assistance: *Provided*, That the Legal Services Corporation may continue to provide locality pay to officers and employees at a rate no greater than that provided by the Federal Government to Washington, DC-based employees as authorized by section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding section 1005(d) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996d(d)): *Provided further*, That the authorities provided in section 205 of this Act shall be applicable to the Legal Services Corporation: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES
CORPORATION

None of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105–119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2023 and 2024, respectively: *Provided*, That for the purposes of applications of such sections 501 and 502, any requirement relating to the proportion of attorneys serving on the governing body of an entity providing legal assistance shall be deemed to be satisfied if at least 33 percent of such governing body is composed of attorneys otherwise meeting the criteria established by section 1007(c) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996f(c)), and section 502(2)(b)(ii) of Public Law 104–134 shall not apply.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Marine Mammal Commission as authorized by title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), \$4,500,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE

REPRESENTATIVE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and the employment of experts and consultants as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$59,000,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, not to exceed \$124,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

TRADE ENFORCEMENT TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities of the United States Trade Representative authorized by section 611 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4405), including transfers, \$15,000,000, to be derived from the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to subsection (d)(1) of such section shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the State Justice Institute, as authorized by the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 et seq.) \$7,640,000, of which \$500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That, for

the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the State Justice Institute shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 504. If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of each provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 505. None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs, or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

SEC. 506. (a) If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a "Made in America" inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, the person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds made available in this Act, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in sections 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b)(1) To the extent practicable, with respect to authorized purchases of promotional items, funds made available by this Act shall be used to purchase items that are manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States, its territories or possessions.

(2) The term "promotional items" has the meaning given the term in OMB Circular A-87, Attachment B, Item (1)(f)(3).

SEC. 507. (a) The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations at the account level. For unobligated, uncommitted balances and unobligated, committed balances the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation from which the balances were derived. For balances that are obligated, but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify amounts by the year of obligation.

(b) The report described in subsection (a) shall be submitted within 30 days of the end of each quarter.

(c) If a department or agency is unable to fulfill any aspect of a reporting requirement described in subsection (a) due to a limitation of a current accounting system, the department or agency shall fulfill such aspect to the maximum extent practicable under such accounting system and shall identify and describe in each quarterly report the extent to which such aspect is not fulfilled.

SEC. 508. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That for the Department of Commerce, this section shall also apply to actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property.

SEC. 509. None of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

SEC. 510. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts deposited or available in the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473 (34 U.S.C. 20101) in any fiscal year in excess of \$1,353,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the following fiscal year: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act, of the amounts available from the Fund for obligation: (1) \$10,000,000 shall be transferred to the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General and remain available until expended for oversight and auditing purposes associated with this section; and (2) 5 percent shall be available to the Office for Victims of Crime for grants, consistent with the requirements of the Victims of Crime Act, to Indian Tribes to improve services for victims of crime.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available to the Department of Justice in this Act may be used to discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students who participate in programs for which financial assistance is provided from those funds, or of the parents or legal guardians of such students.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any depart-

ment, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 513. (a) The Inspectors General of the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation shall conduct audits, pursuant to the Inspector General Act (5 U.S.C. App.), of grants or contracts for which funds are appropriated by this Act, and shall submit reports to Congress on the progress of such audits, which may include preliminary findings and a description of areas of particular interest, within 180 days after initiating such an audit and every 180 days thereafter until any such audit is completed.

(b) Within 60 days after the date on which an audit described in subsection (a) by an Inspector General is completed, the Secretary, Attorney General, Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, shall make the results of the audit available to the public on the Internet website maintained by the Department, Administration, Foundation, or Corporation, respectively. The results shall be made available in redacted form to exclude—

(1) any matter described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) sensitive personal information for any individual, the public access to which could be used to commit identity theft or for other inappropriate or unlawful purposes.

(c) Any person awarded a grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act shall submit a statement to the Secretary of Commerce, the Attorney General, the Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, certifying that no funds derived from the grant or contract will be made available through a subcontract or in any other manner to another person who has a financial interest in the person awarded the grant or contract.

(d) The provisions of the preceding subsections of this section shall take effect 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, determines that a uniform set of rules and requirements, substantially similar to the requirements in such subsections, consistently apply under the executive branch ethics program to all Federal departments, agencies, and entities.

SEC. 514. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, "Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems" unless the agency has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to inform acquisition decisions for high-impact and moderate-impact information systems within the Federal Government;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the FBI and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) in consultation with the FBI or other appropriate Federal entity, conducted an assessment of any risk of cyber-espionage or sabotage associated with the acquisition of

such system, including any risk associated with such system being produced, manufactured, or assembled by one or more entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber threat, including but not limited to, those that may be owned, directed, or subsidized by the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or the Russian Federation.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system reviewed and assessed under subsection (a) unless the head of the assessing entity described in subsection (a) has—

(1) developed, in consultation with NIST, the FBI, and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks;

(2) determined, in consultation with NIST and the FBI, that the acquisition of such system is in the national interest of the United States; and

(3) reported that determination to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the agency Inspector General.

SEC. 515. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used in any way whatsoever to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to include in any new bilateral or multilateral trade agreement the text of—

(1) paragraph 2 of article 16.7 of the United States–Singapore Free Trade Agreement;

(2) paragraph 4 of article 17.9 of the United States–Australia Free Trade Agreement; or

(3) paragraph 4 of article 15.9 of the United States–Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

SEC. 517. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to authorize or issue a national security letter in contravention of any of the following laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue national security letters: The Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978; The Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986; The Fair Credit Reporting Act; The National Security Act of 1947; USA PATRIOT Act; USA FREEDOM Act of 2015; and the laws amended by these Acts.

SEC. 518. If at any time during any quarter, the program manager of a project within the jurisdiction of the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation totaling more than \$75,000,000 has reasonable cause to believe that the total program cost has increased by 10 percent or more, the program manager shall immediately inform the respective Secretary, Administrator, or Director. The Secretary, Administrator, or Director shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days in writing of such increase, and shall include in such notice: the date on which such determination was made; a statement of the reasons for such increases; the action taken and proposed to be taken to control future cost growth of the project; changes made in the performance or schedule milestones and the degree to which such changes have contributed to the increase in total program costs or procurement costs; new estimates of the total project or procurement costs; and a statement validating that the project's management structure is adequate to control total project or procurement costs.

SEC. 519. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically

authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094) during fiscal year 2024 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 520. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract in an amount greater than \$5,000,000 or to award a grant in excess of such amount unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the contractor or grantee has filed all Federal tax returns required during the three years preceding the certification, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 521. (a) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Commerce, the following funds are hereby permanently rescinded, not later than September 30, 2024, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) “Economic Development Administration—Economic Development Assistance Programs”, \$35,000,000, only from prior year appropriations;

(2) “Census Working Capital Fund”, \$10,000,000;

(3) “National Institute of Standards and Technology—Working Capital Fund”, \$10,000,000;

(4) “Nonrecurring Expenses Fund”, \$12,440,000,000, only from amounts appropriated by section 101(e) of the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118–5); and

(5) “Departmental Management—Working Capital Fund”, \$10,000,000.

(b) Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby permanently rescinded, not later than September 30, 2024, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) “Federal Bureau of Investigation—Salaries and Expenses”, \$367,700,000;

(2) “Federal Prison System—Buildings and Facilities”, \$19,000,000;

(3) “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Office on Violence Against Women—Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs”, \$5,000,000;

(4) “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Office of Justice Programs”, \$120,000,000; and

(5) “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Community Oriented Policing Services”, \$15,000,000.

(c) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby permanently rescinded, not later than September 30, 2024, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) “Working Capital Fund”, \$131,572,000; and

(2) “Legal Activities—Assets Forfeiture Fund”, \$500,000,000.

(d) The Departments of Commerce and Justice shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report no later than September 1, 2024, specifying the amount of each rescission made pursuant to subsections (a), (b), and (c).

(e) The amounts rescinded in subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall not be from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency or disaster relief requirement pursuant to the concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(f) The amounts rescinded pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) shall not be from—

(1) amounts provided under subparagraph (Q) of paragraph (1) under the heading “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Office of Justice Programs—State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance” in title II of division B of Public Law 117–103 or Public Law 117–328; or

(2) amounts provided under paragraph (7) under the heading “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Community Oriented Policing Services—Community Oriented Policing Services Programs” in title II of division B of Public Law 117–103 or Public Law 117–328.

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 523. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal department or agency, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference occurring outside the United States unless—

(1) such conference is a law enforcement training or operational conference for law enforcement personnel and the majority of Federal employees in attendance are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States; or

(2) such conference is a scientific conference and the department or agency head determines that such attendance is in the national interest and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within at least 15 days of that determination and the basis for that determination.

SEC. 524. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall instruct any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts and include in its annual performance plan and performance and accountability reports the following:

(1) Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(2) The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(3) Identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(4) In the preceding 3 fiscal years, details on the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances (on the first day of each fiscal year) for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total finances that have not been obligated to a specific project remaining in the accounts.

SEC. 525. To the extent practicable, funds made available in this Act should be used to purchase light bulbs that are “Energy Star” qualified or have the “Federal Energy Management Program” designation.

SEC. 526. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), or the National Space Council (NSC) to develop, design, plan, promulgate, implement, or execute a bilateral

policy, program, order, or contract of any kind to participate, collaborate, or coordinate bilaterally in any way with China or any Chinese-owned company unless such activities are specifically authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at facilities belonging to or utilized by NASA.

(c) The limitations described in subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to activities which NASA, OSTP, or NSC, after consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, have certified—

(1) pose no risk of resulting in the transfer of technology, data, or other information with national security or economic security implications to China or a Chinese-owned company; and

(2) will not involve knowing interactions with officials who have been determined by the United States to have direct involvement with violations of human rights.

(d) Any certification made under subsection (c) shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, no later than 30 days prior to the activity in question and shall include a description of the purpose of the activity, its agenda, its major participants, and its location and timing.

SEC. 527. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, adjudication, or other law enforcement- or victim assistance-related activity.

SEC. 528. The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Commission on Civil Rights, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the International Trade Commission, the Legal Services Corporation, the Marine Mammal Commission, the Offices of Science and Technology Policy and the United States Trade Representative, the National Space Council, and the State Justice Institute shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 529. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or for performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 530. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 7606 (“Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research”) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration.

SEC. 531. None of the funds made available under this Act to the Department of Justice may be used, with respect to any of the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mex-

ico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, or with respect to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, or Puerto Rico, to prevent any of them from implementing their own laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana.

SEC. 532. The Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation shall provide a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on any official travel to China by any employee of such Department or agency, including the purpose of such travel.

SEC. 533. Of the amounts made available by this Act, not less than 10 percent of each total amount provided, respectively, for Public Works grants authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 and grants authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722) shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1993 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, the 2000 decennial census, and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, or any Territory or possession of the United States.

SEC. 534. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or treaty, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act or any other Act may be expended or obligated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to pay administrative expenses or to compensate an officer or employee of the United States in connection with requiring an export license for the export to Canada of components, parts, accessories or attachments for firearms listed in Category I, section 121.1 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations (International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR), part 121, as it existed on April 1, 2005) with a total value not exceeding \$500 wholesale in any transaction, provided that the conditions of subsection (b) of this section are met by the exporting party for such articles.

(b) The foregoing exemption from obtaining an export license—

(1) does not exempt an exporter from filing any Shipper’s Export Declaration or notification letter required by law, or from being otherwise eligible under the laws of the United States to possess, ship, transport, or export the articles enumerated in subsection (a); and

(2) does not permit the export without a license of—

(A) fully automatic firearms and components and parts for such firearms, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada;

(B) barrels, cylinders, receivers (frames) or complete breech mechanisms for any firearm listed in Category I, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada; or

(C) articles for export from Canada to another foreign destination.

(c) In accordance with this section, the District Directors of Customs and postmasters shall permit the permanent or temporary export without a license of any un-

classified articles specified in subsection (a) to Canada for end use in Canada or return to the United States, or temporary import of Canadian-origin items from Canada for end use in the United States or return to Canada for a Canadian citizen.

(d) The President may require export licenses under this section on a temporary basis if the President determines, upon publication first in the Federal Register, that the Government of Canada has implemented or maintained inadequate import controls for the articles specified in subsection (a), such that a significant diversion of such articles has and continues to take place for use in international terrorism or in the escalation of a conflict in another nation. The President shall terminate the requirements of a license when reasons for the temporary requirements have ceased.

SEC. 535. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this Act or any other Act shall obligate or expend in any way such funds to pay administrative expenses or the compensation of any officer or employee of the United States to deny any application submitted pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778(b)(1)(B) and qualified pursuant to 27 CFR section 478.112 or .113, for a permit to import United States origin “curios or relics” firearms, parts, or ammunition.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to deny, or fail to act on, an application for the importation of any model of shotgun if—

(1) all other requirements of law with respect to the proposed importation are met; and

(2) no application for the importation of such model of shotgun, in the same configuration, had been denied by the Attorney General prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

SEC. 537. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 538. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

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

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

SEC. 539. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

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

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

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

(2) is—

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

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

SEC. 540. (a) The remaining unobligated balances of funds as of September 30, 2024, from amounts made available to “Office of the United States Trade Representative—Salaries and Expenses” in section 540(a) of division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority equivalent to the amount rescinded pursuant to this subsection is hereby appropriated on September 30, 2024, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2024, to remain available until September 30, 2026, and shall be available for the same purposes, in addition to other funds as may be available for such purposes, and under the same authorities for which the funds were provided in Public Law 116-113, except that all references to “2023” under such heading in Public Law 116-113 shall be deemed to refer instead to “2026”.

(b) The remaining unobligated balances of funds as of September 30, 2024, from amounts made available to “Office of the United States Trade Representative—Trade Enforcement Trust Fund” in section 540(b) of division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority equivalent to the amount rescinded pursuant to this subsection is hereby appropriated on September 30, 2024, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2024, to remain available until September 30, 2026, and shall be available for the same purposes, in addition to other funds as may be available for such purposes, and under the same authorities for which the funds were provided in Public Law 116-113, except that the reference to “2023” under such heading in Public Law 116-113 shall be deemed to refer instead to “2026”.

(c) The amounts rescinded pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and section 1(e) of H. Res. 1151 (117th Congress), as engrossed in the House of Representatives on June 8, 2022, are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

(d) Each amount provided by this section is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 541. Funds made available to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice in this Act and any remaining unobligated balances of funds made available to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice in prior year Acts, other than amounts designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or from amounts made available under the heading “Department of Justice—Legal Activities—Fees and Expenses of Witnesses”, shall be available to provide payments pursuant to section 901(i)(2) of title IX of division J of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (22 U.S.C. 2680b(i)(2)): *Provided*, That payments made pursuant to the matter preceding this proviso may not exceed \$5,000,000 for the Department of Commerce and \$10,000,000 for the Department of Justice.

SEC. 542. Notwithstanding title II of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and

Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), up to 0.7 percent of amounts made available to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration by such Act shall be available for salaries and expenses, administration, and oversight of programs administered by such Administration that received appropriations by such Act, in addition to amounts previously made available for such purpose: *Provided*, That all such amounts shall be available across such programs and shall be available for salaries and expenses, administration, and oversight of the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program (as authorized by section 902 of division N of Public Law 116-260) and of the Broadband Connectivity Infrastructure Program (as authorized by section 905(d) of division N of Public Law 116-260), regardless of the heading under which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That such amounts may be transferred between the appropriate accounts to carry out this section, in addition to authorities included elsewhere in such Act: *Provided further*, That this section shall not reduce the total allocation for any State under Program Notices of Available Amounts dated June 30, 2023: *Provided further*, That amounts transferred pursuant to this section may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

SEC. 543. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to move the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Canine Training Center or the ATF National Canine Division from Front Royal, Virginia, to another location.

SEC. 544. (a) Section 507(d) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by inserting “excluding subparagraph (F)” after “(a)(8)”.

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to cases commenced under title 11 of the United States Code before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 545. Section 107(b)(2)(C) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(2)(C)) is amended by striking “total costs of the projects described in the application submitted” and inserting in its place “total project cost. In general, this project match requirement may be satisfied by contributions or expenditures committed to improve victim support services that promote victim recovery and reintegration into society, provided that these contributions and expenditures are consistent with applicable grant requirements and approved project scope”.

SEC. 546. (a)(1)(A) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall allocate amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 102(a) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167), including the transfer authority in such paragraphs of that section of that Act, to the accounts specified, in the amounts specified,

and for the projects and activities specified, in the table titled “Department of Commerce Allocation of National Institute of Standards and Technology Funds: CHIPS Act Fiscal Year 2024” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and pursuant to the direction included in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

(B) Not later than October 15, 2024, and notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of Commerce shall allocate from the amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Fund for fiscal year 2025 pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 102(a) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167), including the transfer authority in such paragraphs of that section of that Act, to the account specified, in the amount specified, and for the project and activity specified, in the table titled “Department of Commerce Allocation of National Institute of Standards and Technology Funds: CHIPS Act Fiscal Year 2025” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and pursuant to the direction included in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

(C) Not later than October 15, 2025, and notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, the Secretary of Commerce shall allocate from the amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Fund for fiscal year 2026 pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 102(a) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167), including the transfer authority in such paragraphs of that section of that Act, to the accounts specified, in the amounts not to exceed that specified, and for the projects and activities specified, in the table titled “Department of Commerce Allocation of National Institute of Standards and Technology Funds: CHIPS Act Fiscal Year 2026” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and pursuant to the direction included in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

(2) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall allocate amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Workforce and Education Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to section 102(d)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117-167), to the account specified, in the amounts specified, and for the projects and activities specified in the table titled “National Science Foundation Allocation of Funds: CHIPS Act Fiscal Year 2024” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

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

(c) Subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the

Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and subject to the terms and conditions in section 505 of this Act—

(1) the Secretary of Commerce may reallocate funds allocated to Industrial Technology Services for section 9906 of Public Law 116-283 by subsection (a)(1) of this section; and

(2) the Director of the National Science Foundation may reallocate funds allocated to the CHIPS for America Workforce and Education Fund by subsection (a)(2) of this section.

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

(e) The Department of Commerce and the National Science Foundation, as appropriate, shall each provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the CHIPS for America Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section, and section 543(a)(1) of division B of Public Law 117-328, the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to section 543 (a)(2) of division B of Public Law 117-328, and the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the CHIPS for America Workforce and Education Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section and section 543(a)(3) of division B of Public Law 117-328, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds.

This division may be cited as the “Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”.

DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the Army pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related efforts.

INVESTIGATIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary where authorized by law for the collection and study of basic information pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related needs; for surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of proposed river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, and aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, and related efforts prior to construction; for restudy of authorized projects; and for miscellaneous investigations, and, when authorized by law, surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of projects prior to construction, \$142,990,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall

not deviate from the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$11,413,000 is rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the construction of river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; for conducting detailed studies, and plans and specifications, of such projects (including those involving participation by States, local governments, or private groups) authorized or made eligible for selection by law (but such detailed studies, and plans and specifications, shall not constitute a commitment of the Government to construction); \$1,854,688,000, to remain available until expended; of which \$114,775,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, shall be to cover the Federal share of construction costs for facilities under the Dredged Material Disposal Facilities program; and of which such sums as are necessary to cover 35 percent of the costs of construction, replacement, rehabilitation, and expansion of inland waterways projects shall be derived from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, except as otherwise specifically provided for in law: *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$9,678,000 is rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under this heading in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) for which spend plan allocations have not been announced as of the date of enactment of this Act, \$1,434,500,000 shall be used, regardless of project purpose and in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes, for projects specified in the table titled “Corps of Engineers—Construction” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and, when combined with the amounts made available in the matter preceding the first proviso under this heading, shall not in total exceed the amount for any project as specified in such table: *Provided further*, That projects receiving funds pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be subject to the terms and conditions of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58): *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit directly to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a work plan that includes the amount that each project specified in the table titled “Corps of Engineers—Construction” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) will receive from amounts made available in the matter preceding the first proviso under this heading and from amounts repurposed pursuant to the third proviso under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the work plan, once the plan

has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for flood damage reduction projects and related efforts in the Mississippi River alluvial valley below Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as authorized by law, \$368,037,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$6,057,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, shall be to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for inland harbors: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$1,110,000 is rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the operation, maintenance, and care of existing river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; providing security for infrastructure owned or operated by the Corps, including administrative buildings and laboratories; maintaining harbor channels provided by a State, municipality, or other public agency that serve essential navigation needs of general commerce, where authorized by law; surveying and charting northern and northwestern lakes and connecting waters; clearing and straightening channels; and removing obstructions to navigation, \$5,552,816,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$2,650,168,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, shall be to cover the Federal share of eligible operations and maintenance costs for coastal harbors and channels, and for inland harbors; of which such sums as become available from the special account for the Corps of Engineers established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 shall be derived from that account for resource protection, research, interpretation, and maintenance activities related to resource protection in the areas at which outdoor recreation is available; of which such sums as become available from fees collected under section 217 of Public Law 104-303 shall be used to cover the cost of operation and maintenance of the dredged material disposal facilities for which such fees have been collected; and of which \$58,000,000, to be derived from the general fund of the Treasury, shall be to carry out subsection (c) of section 2106 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 2238c) and shall be designated as being for such purpose pursuant to paragraph (2) of section 14003 of division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136): *Provided*, That 1 percent of the total amount of funds provided for each of the programs, projects, or

activities funded under this heading shall not be allocated to a field operating activity prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year and shall be available for use by the Chief of Engineers to fund such emergency activities as the Chief of Engineers determines to be necessary and appropriate, and that the Chief of Engineers shall allocate during the fourth quarter any remaining funds which have not been used for emergency activities proportionally in accordance with the amounts provided for the programs, projects, or activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$30,000 is rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

For expenses necessary for administration of laws pertaining to regulation of navigable waters and wetlands, \$221,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

For expenses necessary to clean up contamination from sites in the United States resulting from work performed as part of the Nation's early atomic energy program, \$300,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

For expenses necessary to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to such disasters as authorized by law, \$35,000,000, to remain available until expended.

EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the supervision and general administration of the civil works program in the headquarters of the Corps of Engineers and the offices of the Division Engineers; and for costs of management and operation of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity, the Institute for Water Resources, the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center allocable to the civil works program, \$216,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be used for official reception and representation purposes and only during the current fiscal year: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation provided in this title shall be available to fund the civil works activities of the Office of the Chief of Engineers or the civil works executive direction and management activities of the division offices: *Provided further*, That any Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies appropriation may be used to fund the supervision and general administration of emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to any flood, hurricane, or other natural disaster.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works as authorized by 10 U.S.C. 7016(b)(3), \$5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not more than 75 percent of such amount may be obligated or expended until the Assistant Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Con-

gress the report required under section 101(d) of this Act and a work plan that allocates at least 95 percent of the additional funding provided under each heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), to specific programs, projects, or activities: *Provided further*, That not more than 90 percent of such amounts made available under this heading shall be available for obligation until the Assistant Secretary provides in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress recommendations for the appropriate level of design during feasibility studies, the appropriate level of preconstruction engineering and design required before a construction new start, and how cost estimate classifications may best be adjusted for changing environments.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans and for the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, \$2,200,000, to remain available until expended, for safety projects to maintain, upgrade, and repair dams identified in the National Inventory of Dams with a primary owner type of state, local government, public utility, or private: *Provided*, That no project may be funded with amounts provided under this heading for a dam that is identified as jointly owned in the National Inventory of Dams and where one of those joint owners is the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act shall also be available for projects to construct, maintain, upgrade, and repair levees and ancillary features with a primary owner type of state, municipal, county, private, or other non-Federal entity: *Provided further*, That no project may be funded with amounts provided under this heading for a levee unless the Secretary has certified in advance, in writing, that the levee is not owned, in whole or in part, by the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, including capitalized interest, and total loan principal, including capitalized interest, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$440,000,000: *Provided further*, That the use of direct loans or loan guarantee authority under this heading for direct loans or commitments to guarantee loans for any project shall be in accordance with the criteria published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2020 (85 FR 39189) pursuant to the fourth proviso under the heading "Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program Account" in division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94): *Provided further*, That none of the direct loans or loan guarantee authority made available under this heading shall be available for any project unless the Secretary and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget have certified in advance in writing that the direct loan or loan guarantee, as applicable, and the project comply with the criteria referenced in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That any references to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the Administrator in the criteria referenced in the previous two provisos shall be deemed to be references to the Army Corps of Engineers or the Secretary of the Army, respectively, for purposes of the direct loans or loan guarantee authority made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That for the pur-

poses of carrying out the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office may request, and the Secretary shall promptly provide, documentation and information relating to a project identified in a Letter of Interest submitted to the Secretary pursuant to a Notice of Funding Availability for applications for credit assistance under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program, including with respect to a project that was initiated or completed before the date of enactment of this Act.

In addition, fees authorized to be collected pursuant to sections 5029 and 5030 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 shall be deposited in this account, to remain available until expended.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, notwithstanding section 5033 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, \$5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) None of the funds provided in title I of this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title I of this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that:

(1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity for a different purpose, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress;

(5) augments or reduces existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of the amounts contained in paragraphs (6) through (10), unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress;

(6) INVESTIGATIONS.—For a base level over \$100,000, reprogramming of 25 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$150,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than \$100,000, the reprogramming limit is \$25,000: *Provided further*, That up to \$25,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(7) CONSTRUCTION.—For a base level over \$2,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$3,000,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than \$2,000,000, the reprogramming limit is \$300,000: *Provided further*, That up to \$3,000,000 may be reprogrammed for settled contractor claims, changed conditions, or real estate deficiency judgments: *Provided further*, That up to \$300,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(8) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—Unlimited reprogramming authority is granted for the Corps to be able to respond to emergencies: *Provided*, That the Chief of Engineers shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of these

emergency actions as soon thereafter as practicable: *Provided further*, That for a base level over \$1,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of \$5,000,000 per project, study, or activity is allowed: *Provided further*, That for a base level less than \$1,000,000, the reprogramming limit is \$150,000: *Provided further*, That \$150,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation;

(9) MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES.—The reprogramming guidelines in paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) shall apply to the Investigations, Construction, and Operation and Maintenance portions of the Mississippi River and Tributaries Account, respectively; and

(10) FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM.—Reprogramming of up to 15 percent of the base of the receiving project is permitted.

(b) DE MINIMUS REPROGRAMMINGS.—In no case should a reprogramming for less than \$50,000 be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(c) CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROGRAM.—Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to any project or activity funded under the continuing authorities program.

(d) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year which shall include:

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

(2) A delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriations; and

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

SEC. 102. The Secretary shall allocate funds made available in this Act solely in accordance with the provisions of this Act and in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to award or modify any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity that remain unobligated, except that such amounts may include any funds that have been made available through reprogramming pursuant to section 101.

SEC. 104. The Secretary of the Army may transfer to the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service may accept and expend, up to \$8,200,000 of funds provided in this title under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" to mitigate for fisheries lost due to Corps of Engineers projects.

SEC. 105. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for an open lake placement alternative for dredged material, after evaluating the least costly, environmentally acceptable manner for the disposal or management of dredged material originating from Lake Erie or tributaries thereto, unless it is approved under a State water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1341): *Provided*, That until an open lake placement alternative for dredged material is approved under a State water quality certification, the Corps of Engineers shall continue upland placement of such dredged material consistent with the requirements of section 101 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2211).

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out any water supply reallocation study under the Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, Kentucky, project authorized under the Act of July 24, 1946 (60 Stat. 636, ch. 595).

SEC. 107. Additional funding provided in this Act shall be allocated only to projects determined to be eligible by the Chief of Engineers.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available by this Act or any prior Act may be used to alter the eligibility requirements for assistance under section 5 of the Act of August 18, 1941 (33 U.S.C. 701n) in effect on November 14, 2022, without express authorization by Congress.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other requirement, the remaining unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading "Corps of Engineers—Civil—Construction" in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) for which spend plan allocations have not been announced as of the date of enactment of this Act (other than such balances otherwise repurposed by the third proviso under such heading in this title) may be made available for projects, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes and regardless of project purpose, that have previously received funds under the heading "Construction" in title IV of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) subject to the terms and conditions of such title IV of division B as applicable and as specifically modified by section 111 of this Act, or in chapter 4 of title X of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (division A of Public Law 113-2) subject to the terms and conditions of such chapter 4 of title X as applicable and as specifically modified by section 111 of this Act, and for which non-Federal interests have entered into binding agreements with the Secretary as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

SEC. 110. The remaining unobligated balances from amounts provided under the heading "Construction" in title IV of the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (division B of Public Law 117-43) for which spend plan allocations were announced prior to the date of enactment of this Act shall be reallocated to the same project, including modifications thereto, and in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, that has previously received funds under such heading in title IV of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), subject to the terms and conditions of such title IV of division B of Public Law 115-123 as applicable and as specifically modified by section 111 of this Act: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 111. Studies or projects receiving funds under the following headings in the following Acts as of the date of enactment of this Act are not required to be completed with such funds and may receive funds from

this Act or future Acts, and any additional funds for such studies and projects shall be subject to the same terms and conditions applicable to the following headings in the following Acts—

(1) "Investigations" or "Construction" in title IV of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123);

(2) "Corps of Engineers—Civil—Construction" in chapter 4 of title X of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (division A of Public Law 113-2); and

(3) "Corps of Engineers—Civil—Investigations" in title III of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

SEC. 112. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available to "Corps of Engineers—Civil", the following funds shall be transferred from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts to "Corps of Engineers—Civil—Investigations" and, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes, shall be used for studies that have previously received funds provided under the heading "Investigations" in title IV of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) or under such heading in title III of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) and for which non-Federal interests have entered into feasibility cost sharing agreements with the Secretary as of the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) \$371,293.38 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Construction" in chapter 3 of title I of division B of Public Law 109-148;

(2) \$562,613.89 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" in chapter 3 of title I of division B of Public Law 109-148 that were provided for the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet channel;

(3) \$38,873.32 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Construction" in chapter 3 of title II of Public Law 109-234 that were provided for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity project, the North Padre Island, Texas project, the Sacramento, California, Area project, and the Hawaii Water Systems Technical Assistance Program;

(4) \$95.55 from the combined unobligated balances under the "Construction" headings in chapter 3 of title IV and chapter 3 of title V of Public Law 110-28;

(5) \$83,734.13 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Construction" in chapter 3 of title III of Public Law 110-252, including amounts that were provided for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity project, the West Bank and Vicinity project, and the Southeast Louisiana Urban Drainage project;

(6) \$2,122.56 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" in chapter 3 of title III of Public Law 110-252;

(7) \$10.72 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Mississippi River and Tributaries" in chapter 3 of title III of Public Law 110-252;

(8) \$274,678.03 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Construction" in chapter 3 of title I of division B of Public Law 110-329 that were provided for the Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity project, the West Bank and Vicinity project, and the Southeast Louisiana Urban Drainage project;

(9) \$267,434.81 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" in chapter 3 of title I of division B of Public Law 110-329;

(10) \$0.02 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Operation and Maintenance" in title IV of Public Law 111-32;

(11) \$246,869.24 from the unobligated balances under the heading "Operation and

Maintenance” in chapter 4 of title I of Public Law 111–212; and

(12) \$2,643,142.04 from the unobligated balances under the heading “Operation and Maintenance” in title I of Public Law 112–77: *Provided*, That studies receiving funding pursuant to this section shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the heading “Investigations” in title IV of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123) or such heading in title III of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58), as applicable and as specifically modified by section 111 of this Act: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or as being for disaster relief pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as being an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of such Act, respectively.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

For carrying out activities authorized by the Central Utah Project Completion Act, \$23,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$4,650,000 shall be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,750,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for expenses necessary in carrying out related responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, of the amount made available to the Commission under this Act or any other Act, the Commission may use an amount not to exceed \$1,990,000 for administrative expenses.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The following appropriations shall be expended to execute authorized functions of the Bureau of Reclamation:

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For management, development, and restoration of water and related natural resources and for related activities, including the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of reclamation and other facilities, participation in fulfilling related Federal responsibilities to Native Americans, and related grants to, and cooperative and other agreements with, State and local governments, federally recognized Indian Tribes, and others, \$1,751,698,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$1,051,000 shall be available for transfer to the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund and \$7,584,000 shall be available for transfer to the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund; of which such amounts as may be necessary may be advanced to the Colorado River Dam Fund: *Provided*, That \$500,000 shall be available for transfer into the Aging Infrastructure Account established by section 9603(d)(1) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, as amended (43 U.S.C. 510b(d)(1)): *Provided further*, That such transfers, except for the transfer authorized by the preceding proviso, may be increased or decreased within the overall appropriation under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total appropriated, the amount for program activities that can be financed by the Reclamation

Fund, the Water Storage Enhancement Receipts account established by section 4011(e) of Public Law 114–322, or the Bureau of Reclamation special fee account established by 16 U.S.C. 6806 shall be derived from that Fund or account: *Provided further*, That funds contributed under 43 U.S.C. 395 are available until expended for the purposes for which the funds were contributed: *Provided further*, That funds advanced under 43 U.S.C. 397a shall be credited to this account and are available until expended for the same purposes as the sums appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$5,500,000 shall be deposited in the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund established by section 110 of title I of division B of appendix D of Public Law 106–554: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided herein, funds may be used for high-priority projects which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps, as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1706: *Provided further*, That within available funds, \$250,000 shall be for grants and financial assistance for educational activities: *Provided further*, That in accordance with section 4007 of Public Law 114–322 and as recommended by the Secretary in a letter dated July 25, 2023, funding provided for such purpose in fiscal year 2023 and prior fiscal years shall be made available to the Sites Reservoir Project.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

For carrying out the programs, projects, plans, habitat restoration, improvement, and acquisition provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, such sums as may be collected in fiscal year 2024 in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund pursuant to sections 3407(d), 3404(c)(3), and 3405(f) of Public Law 102–575, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Bureau of Reclamation is directed to assess and collect the full amount of the additional mitigation and restoration payments authorized by section 3407(d) of Public Law 102–575: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for the acquisition or leasing of water for in-stream purposes if the water is already committed to in-stream purposes by a court adopted decree or order.

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For carrying out activities authorized by the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act, consistent with plans to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, \$33,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such amounts as may be necessary to carry out such activities may be transferred to appropriate accounts of other participating Federal agencies to carry out authorized purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein may be used for the Federal share of the costs of CALFED Program management: *Provided further*, That CALFED implementation shall be carried out in a balanced manner with clear performance measures demonstrating concurrent progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the Program.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for policy, administration, and related functions in the Office of the Commissioner, the Denver office, and offices in the six regions of the Bureau of Reclamation, to remain available until September 30, 2025, \$66,794,000, to be derived from the Reclamation Fund and be nonreimbursable as provided in 43 U.S.C. 377, of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation in this Act shall be available for activi-

ties or functions budgeted as policy and administration expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation shall be available for purchase and replacement of not to exceed 30 motor vehicles, which are for replacement only.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 201. (a) None of the funds provided in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources, or provided by previous or subsequent appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) initiates or creates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress;

(4) restarts or resumes any program, project or activity for which funds are not provided in this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress;

(5) transfers funds in excess of the following limits, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress:

(A) 15 percent for any program, project or activity for which \$2,000,000 or more is available at the beginning of the fiscal year; or

(B) \$400,000 for any program, project or activity for which less than \$2,000,000 is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;

(6) transfers more than \$500,000 from either the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category or the Resources Management and Development category to any program, project, or activity in the other category, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress; or

(7) transfers, where necessary to discharge legal obligations of the Bureau of Reclamation, more than \$5,000,000 to provide adequate funds for settled contractor claims, increased contractor earnings due to accelerated rates of operations, and real estate deficiency judgments, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(b) Subsection (a)(5) shall not apply to any transfer of funds within the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term “transfer” means any movement of funds into or out of a program, project, or activity.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (a) and (b), the amounts made available in this title under the heading “Bureau of Reclamation—Water and Related Resources” shall be expended for the programs, projects, and activities specified in the “Final Bill” columns in the “Water and Related Resources” table included under the heading “Title II—Department of the Interior” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(e) The Bureau of Reclamation shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later

than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 202. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to determine the final point of discharge for the interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit until development by the Secretary of the Interior and the State of California of a plan, which shall conform to the water quality standards of the State of California as approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to minimize any detrimental effect of the San Luis drainage waters.

(b) The costs of the Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and the costs of the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program shall be classified by the Secretary of the Interior as reimbursable or nonreimbursable and collected until fully repaid pursuant to the “Cleanup Program—Alternative Repayment Plan” and the “SJVDP—Alternative Repayment Plan” described in the report entitled “Repayment Report, Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, February 1995”, prepared by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. Any future obligations of funds by the United States relating to, or providing for, drainage service or drainage studies for the San Luis Unit shall be fully reimbursable by San Luis Unit beneficiaries of such service or studies pursuant to Federal reclamation law.

SEC. 203. Section 9504(e) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10364(e)) is amended by striking “\$820,000,000” and inserting “\$920,000,000”.

SEC. 204. (a) Title I of Public Law 108–361 (the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act) (118 Stat. 1681), as amended by section 204 of division D of Public Law 117–103, shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2022” each place it appears.

(b) Section 103(f)(4)(A) of Public Law 108–361 (the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act) is amended by striking “\$25,000,000” and inserting “\$30,000,000”.

SEC. 205. Section 9106(g)(2) of Public Law 111–11 (Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009) shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2022”.

SEC. 206. (a) Section 104(c) of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 (43 U.S.C. 2214(c)) shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2022”.

(b) Section 301 of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 (43 U.S.C. 2241) shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2022” and by substituting “\$130,000,000” for “\$120,000,000”.

SEC. 207. Section 9503(f) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10363(f)) shall be applied by substituting “2024” for “2023”.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ENERGY PROGRAMS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for energy efficiency and renewable energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$3,460,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$223,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

CYBERSECURITY, ENERGY SECURITY, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisi-

tion of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for energy sector cybersecurity, energy security, and emergency response activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$200,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$28,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

ELECTRICITY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for electricity activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$280,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$19,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction: *Provided further*, That funds under this heading allocated for the purposes of section 9 of the Small Business Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 638), including for Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer activities, or for the purposes of section 1001 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended (42 U.S.C. 16391(a)), for Technology Commercialization Fund activities, may be reprogrammed without being subject to the restrictions in section 301 of this Act.

GRID DEPLOYMENT

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for grid deployment in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7191 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$60,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$6,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for nuclear energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$1,685,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$90,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of section 954(a)(6) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, the only amount available shall be from the amount specified as including that purpose in the “Final Bill” column in the “Department of Energy” table included under the heading “Title III—Department of Energy” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

FOSSIL ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out fossil energy and carbon management research and development activities, under the authority of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition of in-

terest, including defeasible and equitable interests in any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition or expansion, and for conducting inquiries, technological investigations and research concerning the extraction, processing, use, and disposal of mineral substances without objectionable social and environmental costs (30 U.S.C. 3, 1602, and 1603), \$865,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount \$70,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

ENERGY PROJECTS

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out community project funding activities, under the authority of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), \$83,724,000, to remain available until expended, for projects specified in the table that appears under the heading “Congressionally Directed Spending for Energy Projects” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

For Department of Energy expenses necessary to carry out naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities, \$13,010,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, unobligated funds remaining from prior years shall be available for all naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Strategic Petroleum Reserve facility development and operations and program management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), \$213,390,000, to remain available until expended.

SPR PETROLEUM ACCOUNT

For the acquisition, transportation, and injection of petroleum products, and for other necessary expenses pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), sections 403 and 404 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (42 U.S.C. 6241, 6239 note), section 32204 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241 note), and section 30204 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (42 U.S.C. 6241 note), \$100,000, to remain available until expended.

NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve storage, operation, and management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), \$7,150,000, to remain available until expended.

ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities of the Energy Information Administration, \$135,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for non-defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$342,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in addition, fees collected pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of

section 6939f of title 42, United States Code, and deposited under this heading in fiscal year 2024 pursuant to section 309 of title III of division C of Public Law 116-94 are appropriated, to remain available until expended, for mercury storage costs.

URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out uranium enrichment facility decontamination and decommissioning, remedial actions, and other activities of title II of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, \$855,000,000, to be derived from the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund, to remain available until expended, of which \$0 shall be available in accordance with title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

SCIENCE

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for science activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and purchase of not more than 35 passenger motor vehicles, \$8,240,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$226,831,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for nuclear waste disposal activities to carry out the purposes of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, Public Law 97-425, as amended, \$12,040,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for carrying out the activities of technology transitions, \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$11,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

CLEAN ENERGY DEMONSTRATIONS

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for clean energy demonstrations in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$27,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities authorized by section 5012 of the America COMPETES Act (Public Law 110-69), \$460,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$40,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

TITLE 17 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Such sums as are derived from amounts received from borrowers pursuant to section 1702(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 under this heading in prior Acts, shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Con-

gressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided*, That for necessary administrative expenses of the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program, as authorized, \$70,000,000 is appropriated, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That up to \$70,000,000 of fees collected in fiscal year 2024 pursuant to section 1702(h) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 shall be credited as offsetting collections under this heading and used for necessary administrative expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That to the extent that fees collected in fiscal year 2024 exceed \$70,000,000, those excess amounts shall be credited as offsetting collections under this heading and available in future fiscal years only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced (1) as such fees are received during fiscal year 2024 (estimated at \$70,000,000) and (2) to the extent that any remaining general fund appropriations can be derived from fees collected in previous fiscal years that are not otherwise appropriated, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That the Department of Energy shall not subordinate any loan obligation to other financing in violation of section 1702 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or subordinate any Guaranteed Obligation to any loan or other debt obligations in violation of section 609.8 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

For Department of Energy administrative expenses necessary in carrying out the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program, \$13,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

TRIBAL ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

For Department of Energy administrative expenses necessary in carrying out the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, \$6,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

INDIAN ENERGY POLICY AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for Indian Energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), \$70,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$14,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Department of Energy necessary for departmental administration in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), \$387,078,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$30,000, plus such additional amounts as necessary to cover increases in the estimated amount of cost of work for others notwithstanding the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. 1511 et seq.): *Provided*, That such increases in cost of work are offset by revenue increases of the same or greater amount: *Provided further*, That moneys received by the Department for miscellaneous revenues estimated to total \$100,578,000 in fiscal year 2024 may be retained and used for operating expenses within this account, as authorized by section 201 of Public Law 95-238, notwithstanding the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3302: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$286,500,000.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$86,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for atomic energy defense weapons activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$19,108,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$118,056,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for defense nuclear nonproliferation activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$2,581,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NAVAL REACTORS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for naval reactors activities to carry out the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition (by purchase, condemnation, construction, or otherwise) of real property, plant, and capital equipment, facilities, and facility expansion, \$1,946,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which, \$92,800,000 shall be transferred to "Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy", for the Advanced Test Reactor: *Provided*, That of such amount made available under this heading, \$61,540,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for Federal Salaries and Expenses in the National Nuclear Security Administration, \$500,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, including official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$17,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for atomic energy defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$7,285,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$326,893,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT
DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for atomic energy defense environmental cleanup activities for Department of Energy contributions for uranium enrichment decontamination and decommissioning activities, \$285,000,000, to be deposited into the Defense Environmental Cleanup account, which shall be transferred to the "Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund".

OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses, necessary for atomic energy defense, other defense activities, and classified activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, \$1,080,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$381,593,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for program direction.

POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION FUND

Expenditures from the Bonneville Power Administration Fund, established pursuant to Public Law 93-454, are approved for official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$5,000: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2024, no new direct loan obligations may be made.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHEASTERN
POWER ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and for marketing electric power and energy, including transmission wheeling and ancillary services, pursuant to section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the southeastern power area, \$8,449,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, up to \$8,449,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southeastern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$0: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$71,850,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE,
SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and for marketing electric power and energy, for construction and acquisition of transmission lines, substations and appurtenant

facilities, and for administrative expenses, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500 in carrying out section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the Southwestern Power Administration, \$52,326,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), up to \$40,886,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southwestern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$11,440,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$80,000,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION
AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER
ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the functions authorized by title III, section 302(a)(1)(E) of the Act of August 4, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7152), and other related activities including conservation and renewable resources programs as authorized, \$313,289,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,500, to remain available until expended, of which \$313,289,000 shall be derived from the Department of the Interior Reclamation Fund: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), and section 1 of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1939 (43 U.S.C. 392a), up to \$213,417,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Western Area Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$99,872,000, of which \$99,872,000 is derived from the Reclamation Fund: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$475,000,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 and the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND
MAINTENANCE FUND

For operation, maintenance, and emergency costs for the hydroelectric facilities at

the Falcon and Amistad Dams, \$3,425,000, to remain available until expended, and to be derived from the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund of the Western Area Power Administration, as provided in section 2 of the Act of June 18, 1954 (68 Stat. 255): *Provided*, That notwithstanding the provisions of that Act and of 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to \$3,197,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services from the Falcon and Amistad Dams shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the hydroelectric facilities of these Dams and associated Western Area Power Administration activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$228,000: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration may accept up to \$1,872,000 in funds contributed by United States power customers of the Falcon and Amistad Dams for deposit into the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund, and such funds shall be available for the purpose for which contributed in like manner as if said sums had been specifically appropriated for such purpose: *Provided further*, That any such funds shall be available without further appropriation and without fiscal year limitation for use by the Commissioner of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission for the sole purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, replacing, or upgrading the hydroelectric facilities at these Dams in accordance with agreements reached between the Administrator, Commissioner, and the power customers.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to carry out the provisions of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, official reception and representation expenses not to exceed \$3,000, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$520,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$520,000,000 of revenues from fees and annual charges, and other services and collections in fiscal year 2024 shall be retained and used for expenses necessary in this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as revenues are received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$0.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. (a) No appropriation, funds, or authority made available by this title for the Department of Energy shall be used to initiate or resume any program, project, or activity or to prepare or initiate Requests For Proposals or similar arrangements (including Requests for Quotations, Requests for Information, and Funding Opportunity Announcements) for a program, project, or activity if the program, project, or activity has not been funded by Congress.

(b)(1) Unless the Secretary of Energy notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 3 full business days in advance, none of the funds made available in this title may be used to—

(A) make a grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling \$1,000,000 or more;

(B) make a discretionary contract award or Other Transaction Agreement totaling \$1,000,000 or more, including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation;

(C) provide nonoperational funding through a competition restricted only to Department of Energy National Laboratories totaling \$1,000,000 or more;

(D) provide nonoperational funding directly to a Department of Energy National Laboratory totaling \$25,000,000 or more;

(E) issue a letter of intent to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D); or

(F) announce publicly the intention to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D).

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 15 days of the conclusion of each quarter a report detailing each grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling less than \$1,000,000 provided during the previous quarter.

(3) The notification required by paragraph (1) and the report required by paragraph (2) shall include the recipient of the award, the amount of the award, the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated, the account and program, project, or activity from which the funds are being drawn, the title of the award, and a brief description of the activity for which the award is made.

(c) The Department of Energy may not, with respect to any program, project, or activity that uses budget authority made available in this title under the heading “Department of Energy—Energy Programs”, enter into a multiyear contract, award a multiyear grant, or enter into a multiyear cooperative agreement unless—

(1) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement is funded for the full period of performance as anticipated at the time of award; or

(2) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement includes a clause conditioning the Federal Government’s obligation on the availability of future year budget authority and the Secretary notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 3 days in advance.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (e), (f), and (g), the amounts made available by this title shall be expended as authorized by law for the programs, projects, and activities specified in the “Final Bill” column in the “Department of Energy” table included under the heading “Title III—Department of Energy” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(e) The amounts made available by this title may be reprogrammed for any program, project, or activity, and the Department shall notify, and obtain the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to the use of any proposed reprogramming that would cause any program, project, or activity funding level to increase or decrease by more than \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, during the time period covered by this Act.

(f) None of the funds provided in this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates, initiates, or eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(2) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act; or

(3) reduces funds that are directed to be used for a specific program, project, or activity by this Act.

(g)(1) The Secretary of Energy may waive any requirement or restriction in this section that applies to the use of funds made available for the Department of Energy if compliance with such requirement or restriction would pose a substantial risk to human health, the environment, welfare, or national security.

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of any waiver under paragraph (1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 3 days after the date of the activity to which a requirement or restriction would otherwise have applied. Such notice shall include an explanation of the substantial risk under paragraph (1) that permitted such waiver.

(h) The unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be available to the same appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this title. Available balances may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 302. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for the construction of facilities classified as high-hazard nuclear facilities under 10 CFR Part 830 unless independent oversight is conducted by the Office of Enterprise Assessments to ensure the project is in compliance with nuclear safety requirements.

SEC. 303. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to approve critical decision-2 or critical decision-3 under Department of Energy Order 413.3B, or any successive departmental guidance, for construction projects where the total project cost exceeds \$100,000,000, until a separate independent cost estimate has been developed for the project for that critical decision.

SEC. 304. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to support a grant allocation award, discretionary grant award, or cooperative agreement that exceeds \$100,000,000 in Federal funding unless the project is carried out through internal independent project management procedures.

SEC. 305. No funds shall be transferred directly from “Department of Energy—Power Marketing Administration—Colorado River Basins Power Marketing Fund, Western Area Power Administration” to the general fund of the Treasury in the current fiscal year.

SEC. 306. Only \$35,000,000 of the amounts made available in this Act under the heading “Weapons Activities” for W80-4 Alteration-SLCM, as specified in the “Final Bill” column in the “Department of Energy” table included under the heading “Title III—Department of Energy” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), shall be available for obligation until 15 days after the date on which the Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration certifies in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress that the Administrator is in compliance with the requirements of subsection (c) and subsection (d) of section 1642 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263).

SEC. 307. (a) Of the unobligated balances of amounts made available to the Department of Energy under each heading in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58, an amount

equal to the amount transferred from each such heading as of September 30, 2023, pursuant to section 303 of Public Law 117-58 shall be transferred not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Energy to oversee the funds made available to the Department of Energy in Public Law 117-58: *Provided*, That any amounts so transferred that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

(b) As of the date of enactment of this Act, of the amounts made available to the Department of Energy under each of sections 50121, 50141, 50142, 50143, 50144, 50145, 50151, 50152, 50153, and 50161 of Public Law 117-169, two-tenths of one percent of such amounts shall be transferred to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Energy to oversee the funds made available to the Department of Energy in Public Law 117-169: *Provided*, That amounts so transferred shall be derived from the unobligated balances of amounts under each such section.

(c) Section 303 of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking “through 2026” and inserting “and 2023, and two-tenths of one percent of such amounts made available in each of fiscal years 2024 through 2026”: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to the amendments made by this subsection that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

SEC. 308. (a) Notwithstanding sections 161 and 167 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6241, 6247), the Secretary of Energy shall draw down and sell one million barrels of refined petroleum product from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve during fiscal year 2024.

(b) All proceeds from such sale shall be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury during fiscal year 2024.

(c) Upon the completion of such sale, the Secretary shall carry out the closure of the Northeast Gasoline Supply Reserve.

(d)(1) The Secretary of Energy may not establish any new regional petroleum product reserve unless funding for the proposed regional petroleum product reserve is explicitly requested in advance in an annual budget submitted by the President pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, and approved by the Congress in an appropriations Act.

(2) The budget request or notification shall include—

- (A) the justification for the new reserve;
- (B) a cost estimate for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the reserve, including funding sources;
- (C) a detailed plan for operation of the reserve, including the conditions upon which the products may be released;
- (D) the location of the reserve; and
- (E) the estimate of the total inventory of the reserve.

SEC. 309. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to draw down and sell petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (1) to any entity that is under the ownership, control, or influence of

the Chinese Communist Party; or (2) except on condition that such petroleum products will not be exported to the People's Republic of China.

SEC. 310. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Energy to award any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or loan of \$10,000,000 or greater to an entity of concern as defined in section 10114 of division B of Public Law 117-167.

(b) The Secretary shall implement the requirements under subsection (a) using a risk-based approach and analytical tools to aggregate, link, analyze, and maintain information reported by an entity seeking or receiving such funds made available by this Act.

(c) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with the obligations of the United States under applicable international agreements.

(d) The Secretary shall have the authority to require the submission to the agency, by an entity seeking or receiving such funds made available by this Act, documentation necessary to implement the requirements under subsection (a).

(e) Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act"), shall not apply to the implementation of the requirements under this section.

(f) The Secretary and other Federal agencies shall coordinate to share relevant information necessary to implement the requirements under subsection (a).

SEC. 311. (a) Of the unobligated amounts available under the heading "Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy" in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) for fiscal years 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 the following shall be available, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for these purposes:

(1)(A) \$500,000,000 for not more than two competitive awards for commercial utility deployment projects for a grid scale Generation 3+ small modular reactor design pursuant to section 959A of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, of which \$200,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2024 and \$300,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2025; and

(B) up to \$300,000,000 for the not more than two awards made under subparagraph (A) shall be available in fiscal year 2026.

(2) \$100,000,000 for one or more competitive awards to support design, licensing, supplier development, and site preparation of a grid-scale Generation 3+ reactor design under the Advanced Small Modular Reactor RD&D program.

(3)(A) \$50,000,000 for university and college-based nuclear reactor safety training as authorized by law, including section 31 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, section 4 of the Nuclear Safety, Research, Demonstration, and Development Act of 1980, and section 10745 of the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act (division B of Public Law 117-167); and

(B) up to \$50,000,000 for the training under subparagraph (A) shall be available in fiscal year 2025.

(b) *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

SEC. 312. (a) Of the unobligated balances from amounts previously appropriated under

the heading "Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy" in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) that were made available for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024, up to \$2,720,000,000 shall be available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for necessary expenses to carry out the Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31)): *Provided*, That if insufficient unobligated balances are available from such fiscal year 2022, 2023, and 2024 amounts to fund a total amount for such purpose of up to \$2,720,000,000, then up to \$800,000,000 from amounts previously appropriated under the heading "Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy" in division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) that are made available for fiscal year 2025 may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available, for such purpose to meet such total amount: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section may be transferred to "Department of Energy—Energy Programs—American Energy Independence Fund" in either fiscal year 2024 or fiscal year 2025: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section to enter into and perform such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other similar transactions with public agencies and private organizations and persons, as authorized by section 646(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7256(a)), for such periods of time and subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate, without regard to section 161(u) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2201(u)): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from the sale or transfer of LEU and HALEU or from any other transaction in connection with the amounts repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section shall hereafter be credited to the "American Energy Independence Fund" as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That receipts may hereafter be collected from transactions entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(iii) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(iii)) and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, receipts from any transaction entered into pursuant to section 2001(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)(ii) and (iii)) shall hereafter be credited to the "American Energy Independence Fund" as discretionary offsetting collections and shall be available, for the same purposes as funds repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section, to the extent and in the amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Energy may use funds repurposed, transferred, or otherwise made available pursuant to this section for a commitment only if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from that commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made and only to the extent that up-front obligation is recorded in full at that time: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation estab-

lishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

(b) Amounts may not be repurposed or transferred pursuant to this section until a law is enacted or administrative action is taken to prohibit or limit importation of LEU and HALEU from the Russian Federation or by a Russian entity into the United States.

(c) The Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023 (section 3131 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31)) is amended—

(1) in subsections (f)(1)(B)(i) and (h)(4)(B)(i) to read as follows—

"(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; and".

(2) in subsection (j) to read as follows—

"(j) REASONABLE COMPENSATION.—In carrying out activities under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that any LEU and HALEU made available by the Secretary under 1 or more of the Programs is subject to reasonable compensation, taking into account the fair market value of the LEU or HALEU and the purposes of this section."

SEC. 313. (a) Subject to subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Department of Energy in this or any other Act, including prior Acts and Acts other than appropriations Acts, may be used to pay the salaries and expenses of any contractor detailed to a Congressional Committee or Member Office or to the Executive Branch for longer than a 24-month period, to perform a scope of work, or participate in any matter, with the intent to influence decisions or determinations regarding a Department of Energy National Laboratory, or participate in any matter that may have a direct and predictable effect on the contractor's employer or personal financial interest: *Provided*, That with respect to contractors detailed to a Congressional Committee or Member Office or to the Executive Branch as of the date of enactment of this Act, the initial 24-month period described in this subsection shall be deemed to have begun on the later of the date on which such contractor was detailed or the date that is 12 months before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "contractor" is defined to mean any contracted employee of a Department of Energy National Laboratory, as defined by section 2 (3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).

SEC. 314. (a) The fifty-first proviso under the heading "Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy" in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking "three percent" each place it appears and inserting "five percent".

(b) The eighth proviso under the heading "Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response" in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking "three percent" each place it appears and inserting "five percent".

(c) The tenth proviso under the heading "Electricity" in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking "three percent" each place it appears and inserting "five percent".

(d) The twenty-second proviso under the heading "Fossil Energy and Carbon Management" in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking "three percent" each place it appears and inserting "five percent".

(e) The twenty-sixth proviso under the heading “Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations” in title III of division J of Public Law 117-58 is amended by striking “three percent” each place it appears and inserting “five percent”.

(f) Amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

TITLE IV INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the programs authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, as amended, and for expenses necessary for the Federal Co-Chairman and the Alternate on the Appalachian Regional Commission, for payment of the Federal share of the administrative expenses of the Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board in carrying out activities authorized by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by Public Law 100-456, section 1441, \$42,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Delta Regional Authority and to carry out its activities, as authorized by the Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000, notwithstanding sections 382F(d), 382M, and 382N of said Act, \$31,100,000, to remain available until expended.

DENALI COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Denali Commission including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment as necessary and other expenses, \$17,000,000, to remain available until expended, notwithstanding the limitations contained in section 306(g) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the limitations contained in section 307(c) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998, as amended, funds shall be available for construction projects for which the Denali Commission is the sole or primary funding source in an amount not to exceed 90 percent of total project cost for distressed communities, as defined by such section and by section 701 of appendix D, title VII, Public Law 106-113 (113 Stat. 1501A-280), and for Indian Tribes, as defined by section 5304(e) of title 25, United States Code, and in an amount not to exceed 50 percent for non-distressed communities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law regarding payment of a non-Federal share in connection with a grant-in-aid program, amounts under this heading shall be available for the payment of such a non-Federal share for any project for which the Denali Commission is not the sole or primary funding source, provided that such project is consistent with the purposes of the Commission.

NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Northern Border Regional Commission in carrying out

activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$41,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be available for administrative expenses, notwithstanding section 15751(b) of title 40, United States Code.

SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SOUTHWEST BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Southwest Border Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GREAT LAKES AUTHORITY

For expenses necessary for the Great Lakes Authority in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Commission in carrying out the purposes of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 and the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, \$928,317,580, including official representation expenses not to exceed \$30,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated herein, not more than \$10,350,720 may be made available for salaries, travel, and other support costs for the Office of the Commission, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at \$794,341,580 in fiscal year 2024 shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$133,976,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$15,769,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at \$12,655,000 in fiscal year 2024 shall be retained and be available until September 30, 2025, for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$3,114,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$1,520,000 shall be for Inspector General services for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, as authorized by Public Law 100-203, section 5051, \$4,064,000, to be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

SEC. 401. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall comply with the July 5, 2011,

version of Chapter VI of its Internal Commission Procedures when responding to Congressional requests for information, consistent with Department of Justice guidance for all Federal agencies.

SEC. 402. (a) The amounts made available by this title for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission may be reprogrammed for any program, project, or activity, and the Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to the use of any proposed reprogramming that would cause any program funding level to increase or decrease by more than \$500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, during the time period covered by this Act.

(b)(1) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission may waive the notification requirement in subsection (a) if compliance with such requirement would pose a substantial risk to human health, the environment, welfare, or national security.

(2) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of any waiver under paragraph (1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 3 days after the date of the activity to which a requirement or restriction would otherwise have applied. Such notice shall include an explanation of the substantial risk under paragraph (1) that permitted such waiver and shall provide a detailed report to the Committees of such waiver and changes to funding levels to programs, projects, or activities.

(c) Except as provided in subsections (a), (b), and (d), the amounts made available by this title for “Nuclear Regulatory Commission—Salaries and Expenses” shall be expended as directed in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(d) None of the funds provided for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act.

(e) The Commission shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, which includes the following for each program, project, or activity, including any prior year appropriations—

- (1) total budget authority;
- (2) total unobligated balances; and
- (3) total unliquidated obligations.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 502. (a) None of the funds made available in title III of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(b) None of the funds made available for any department, agency, or instrumentality

of the United States Government may be transferred to accounts funded in title III of this Act, except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(c) The head of any relevant department or agency funded in this Act utilizing any transfer authority shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a semiannual report detailing the transfer authorities, except for any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality, used in the previous 6 months and in the year-to-date. This report shall include the amounts transferred and the purposes for which they were transferred, and shall not replace or modify existing notification requirements for each authority.

SEC. 503. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 504. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to admit any non-US citizen from Russia or China to any nuclear weapons production facility, as such term is defined in section 4002 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act, other than areas accessible to the general public, unless 30 days prior to facility admittance, the Department of Energy provides notification to the Committees on Appropriations and Armed Services of both Houses of Congress.

This division may be cited as the "Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024".

DIVISION E—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to section 1010(a) of Public Law 96-487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), \$1,294,916,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; of which \$55,000,000 for annual maintenance and deferred maintenance programs and \$141,972,000 for the wild horse and burro program, as authorized by Public Law 92-195 (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That amounts in the fee account of the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund may be used for any bureau-related expenses associated with the processing of oil and gas applications for

permits to drill and related use of authorizations: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to \$1,000,000 may be made available for the purposes described in section 122(e)(1)(A) of division G of Public Law 115-31 (43 U.S.C. 1748c(e)(1)(A)): *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$150,000 is for projects specified for Land Management Priorities in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

In addition, \$39,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from mining claim maintenance fees and location fees that are hereby authorized for fiscal year 2024, so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$1,294,916,000, and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

For expenses necessary for management, protection, and development of resources and for construction, operation, and maintenance of access roads, reforestation, and other improvements on the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, on other Federal lands in the Oregon and California land-grant counties of Oregon, and on adjacent rights-of-way; and acquisition of lands or interests therein, including existing connecting roads on or adjacent to such grant lands; \$115,521,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That 25 percent of the aggregate of all receipts during the current fiscal year from the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands is hereby made a charge against the Oregon and California land-grant fund and shall be transferred to the General Fund in the Treasury in accordance with the second paragraph of subsection (b) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 2605).

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

For rehabilitation, protection, and acquisition of lands and interests therein, and improvement of Federal rangelands pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751), notwithstanding any other Act, sums equal to 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year under sections 3 and 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. 315b, 315m) and the amount designated for range improvements from grazing fees and mineral leasing receipts from Bankhead-Jones lands transferred to the Department of the Interior pursuant to law, but not less than \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$600,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.

SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES

For administrative expenses and other costs related to processing application documents and other authorizations for use and disposal of public lands and resources, for costs of providing copies of official public land documents, for monitoring construction, operation, and termination of facilities in conjunction with use authorizations, and

for rehabilitation of damaged property, such amounts as may be collected under Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and under section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185), to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 305(a) of Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1735(a)), any moneys that have been or will be received pursuant to that section, whether as a result of forfeiture, compromise, or settlement, if not appropriate for refund pursuant to section 305(c) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1735(c)), shall be available and may be expended under the authority of this Act by the Secretary of the Interior to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any public lands administered through the Bureau of Land Management which have been damaged by the action of a resource developer, purchaser, permittee, or any unauthorized person, without regard to whether all moneys collected from each such action are used on the exact lands damaged which led to the action: *Provided further*, That any such moneys that are in excess of amounts needed to repair damage to the exact land for which funds were collected may be used to repair other damaged public lands.

MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

In addition to amounts authorized to be expended under existing laws, there is hereby appropriated such amounts as may be contributed under section 307 of Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1737), and such amounts as may be advanced for administrative costs, surveys, appraisals, and costs of making conveyances of omitted lands under section 211(b) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1721(b)), to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Bureau of Land Management may carry out the operations funded under this Act by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities, including with States. Appropriations for the Bureau shall be available for purchase, erection, and dismantlement of temporary structures, and alteration and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities to which the United States has title; up to \$100,000 for payments, at the discretion of the Secretary, for information or evidence concerning violations of laws administered by the Bureau; miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities authorized or approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$10,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding Public Law 90-620 (44 U.S.C. 501), the Bureau may, under cooperative cost-sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share the cost of printing either in cash or in services, and the Bureau determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That projects to be funded pursuant to a written commitment by a State government to provide an identified amount of money in support of the project may be carried out by the Bureau on a reimbursable basis.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as authorized by law, and for scientific and economic studies, general administration, and for the performance of other authorized functions related to such resources, \$1,520,273,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses:

Provided, That not to exceed \$22,000,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) (except for processing petitions, developing and issuing proposed and final regulations, and taking any other steps to implement actions described in subsection (c)(2)(A), (c)(2)(B)(i), or (c)(2)(B)(ii) of such section): *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$44,920,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, shall be for projects specified for Stewardship Priorities in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That amounts in the preceding proviso may be transferred to the appropriate program, project, or activity under this heading and shall continue to only be available for the purposes and in such amounts as such funds were originally appropriated.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fish and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; \$19,280,000, to remain available until expended.

COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1535), \$23,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

For expenses necessary to implement the Act of October 17, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 715s), \$13,228,000.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.), \$49,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.), the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), \$20,500,000, to remain available until expended.

STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

For wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Indian tribes under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished, \$72,384,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided herein, \$6,100,000 is for a competitive

grant program for Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That \$7,284,000 is for a competitive grant program to implement approved plans for States, territories, and other jurisdictions and at the discretion of affected States, the regional Associations of fish and wildlife agencies, not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, after deducting \$13,384,000 and administrative expenses, apportion the amount provided herein in the following manner: (1) to the District of Columbia and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, each a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent thereof; and (2) to Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, each a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent thereof: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall apportion the remaining amount in the following manner: (1) one-third of which is based on the ratio to which the land area of such State bears to the total land area of all such States; and (2) two-thirds of which is based on the ratio to which the population of such State bears to the total population of all such States: *Provided further*, That the amounts apportioned under this paragraph shall be adjusted equitably so that no State shall be apportioned a sum which is less than 1 percent of the amount available for apportionment under this paragraph for any fiscal year or more than 5 percent of such amount: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of planning grants shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such projects and the Federal share of implementation grants shall not exceed 65 percent of the total costs of such projects: *Provided further*, That the non-Federal share of such projects may not be derived from Federal grant programs: *Provided further*, That any amount apportioned in 2024 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, 2025, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in 2026, in the manner provided herein.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service may carry out the operations of Service programs by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities. Appropriations and funds available to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall be available for repair of damage to public roads within and adjacent to reservation areas caused by operations of the Service; options for the purchase of land at not to exceed one dollar for each option; facilities incident to such public recreational uses on conservation areas as are consistent with their primary purpose; and the maintenance and improvement of aquaria, buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Service and to which the United States has title, and which are used pursuant to law in connection with management, and investigation of fish and wildlife resources: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 44 U.S.C. 501, the Service may, under cooperative cost sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share at least one-half the cost of printing either in cash or services and the Service determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That the Service may accept donated aircraft as replacements for existing aircraft: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, all fees collected for non-toxic shot review and approval shall be deposited under the

heading "United States Fish and Wildlife Service—Resource Management" and shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, to be used for expenses of processing of such non-toxic shot type or coating applications and revising regulations as necessary, and shall remain available until expended.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service and for the general administration of the National Park Service, \$2,888,424,000, of which \$11,661,000 for planning and interagency coordination in support of Everglades restoration and \$110,980,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets and \$188,184,000 for cyclic maintenance projects for constructed assets and cultural resources and \$10,000,000 for uses authorized by section 101122 of title 54, United States Code shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representative expenses: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act are available for the purposes of section 5 of Public Law 95-348: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 9 of the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act (36 U.S.C. note prec. 101; Public Law 115-102), \$3,300,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be made available for the purposes specified by that Act: *Provided further*, That sections 7(b) and 8 of that Act shall be amended by striking "July 1, 2024" and inserting "July 1, 2025".

In addition, for purposes described in section 2404 of Public Law 116-9, an amount equal to the amount deposited in this fiscal year into the National Park Medical Services Fund established pursuant to such section of such Act, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from such Fund.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out recreation programs, natural programs, cultural programs, heritage partnership programs, environmental compliance and review, international park affairs, and grant administration, not otherwise provided for, \$91,233,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$1,640,000 shall be for projects specified for Statutory and Contractual Aid in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary in carrying out the National Historic Preservation Act (division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code), \$188,666,000, to be derived from the Historic Preservation Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$25,500,000 shall be for Save America's Treasures grants for preservation of nationally significant sites, structures and artifacts as authorized by section 7303 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (54 U.S.C. 3089): *Provided*, That an individual Save America's Treasures grant shall be matched by non-Federal funds: *Provided further*, That individual projects shall only be eligible for one grant: *Provided further*, That all projects to be funded shall be approved by the Secretary of the Interior in consultation with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund, \$1,250,000 is for competitive grants for

the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks associated with communities currently under-represented, as determined by the Secretary; \$24,000,000 is for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the African American Civil Rights movement; \$5,000,000 is for competitive grants to preserve sites related to the struggle of all people to achieve equal rights in America; \$11,000,000 is for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities; \$12,500,000 is for competitive grants for the restoration of historic properties of national, State, and local significance listed on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, to be made without imposing the usage or direct grant restrictions of section 101(e)(3) (54 U.S.C. 302904) of the National Historic Preservation Act; \$7,000,000 is for a competitive grant program to honor the semiquincentennial anniversary of the United States by restoring and preserving sites and structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places that commemorate the founding of the nation; and \$19,766,000 is for projects specified for the Historic Preservation Fund in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That such competitive grants shall be made without imposing the matching requirements in section 302902(b)(3) of title 54, United States Code to States and Indian tribes as defined in chapter 3003 of such title, Native Hawaiian organizations, local governments, including Certified Local Governments, and non-profit organizations.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvements, repair, or replacement of physical facilities, and related equipment, and compliance and planning for programs and areas administered by the National Park Service, \$172,255,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any project initially funded in fiscal year 2024 with a future phase indicated in the National Park Service 5-Year Line Item Construction Plan, a single procurement may be issued which includes the full scope of the project: *Provided further*, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause availability of funds found at 48 CFR 52.232-18: *Provided further*, That National Park Service Donations, Park Concessions Franchise Fees, and Recreation Fees may be made available for the cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Park Service Construction appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations, in accordance with current reprogramming thresholds, prior to making any charges authorized by this section.

CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of section 101701 of title 54, United States Code, relating to challenge cost share agreements, \$12,000,000, to remain available until expended, for Centennial Challenge projects and programs: *Provided*, That not less than 50 percent of the total cost of each project or program shall be derived from non-Federal sources in the form of donated cash, assets, or a pledge of donation guaranteed by an irrevocable letter of credit.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

In addition to other uses set forth in section 101917(c)(2) of title 54, United States

Code, franchise fees credited to a sub-account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at any unit within the National Park System to extinguish or reduce liability for Possessory Interest or leasehold surrender interest. Such funds may only be used for this purpose to the extent that the benefitting unit anticipated franchise fee receipts over the term of the contract at that unit exceed the amount of funds used to extinguish or reduce liability. Franchise fees at the benefitting unit shall be credited to the sub-account of the originating unit over a period not to exceed the term of a single contract at the benefitting unit, in the amount of funds so expended to extinguish or reduce liability.

For the costs of administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants authorized by section 105(a)(2)(B) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-432), the National Park Service may retain up to 3 percent of the amounts which are authorized to be disbursed under such section, such retained amounts to remain available until expended.

National Park Service funds may be transferred to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation, for purposes authorized under 23 U.S.C. 203. Transfers may include a reasonable amount for FHWA administrative support costs.

Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for fiscal year 2021 or prior fiscal years under the heading "National Park Service—Construction", \$18,500,000 is permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading "National Park Service—Construction" in division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$9,000,000 is permanently rescinded from amounts made available for equipment replacement under such heading, as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 of the matter preceding division A of such Act.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the United States Geological Survey to perform surveys, investigations, and research covering topography, geology, hydrology, biology, and the mineral and water resources of the United States, its territories and possessions, and other areas as authorized by 43 U.S.C. 31, 1332, and 1340; classify lands as to their mineral and water resources; give engineering supervision to power permittees and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensees; administer the minerals exploration program (30 U.S.C. 641); conduct inquiries into the economic conditions affecting mining and materials processing industries (30 U.S.C. 3, 21a, and 1603; 50 U.S.C. 98g(a)(1)) and related purposes as authorized by law; and to publish and disseminate data relative to the foregoing activities; \$1,455,434,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; of which \$95,334,000 shall remain available until expended for satellite operations; and of which \$74,840,000 shall be available until expended for deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects that exceed \$100,000 in cost: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided for the ecosystem research activity shall be used to conduct new surveys on private property, unless specifically authorized in writing by the property owner: *Provided*

further, That no part of this appropriation shall be used to pay more than one-half the cost of topographic mapping or water resources data collection and investigations carried on in cooperation with States and municipalities: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$5,237,000 shall be for projects specified for Special Initiatives in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That amounts in the preceding proviso may be transferred to the appropriate program, project, or activity under this heading and shall continue to only be available for the purposes and in such amounts as such funds were originally appropriated: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

From within the amount appropriated for activities of the United States Geological Survey such sums as are necessary shall be available for contracting for the furnishing of topographic maps and for the making of geophysical or other specialized surveys when it is administratively determined that such procedures are in the public interest; construction and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities; acquisition of lands for gauging stations, observation wells, and seismic equipment; expenses of the United States National Committee for Geological Sciences; and payment of compensation and expenses of persons employed by the Survey duly appointed to represent the United States in the negotiation and administration of interstate compacts: *Provided*, That activities funded by appropriations herein made may be accomplished through the use of contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements (including noncompetitive cooperative agreements with tribes) as defined in section 6302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Geological Survey may enter into contracts or cooperative agreements directly with individuals or indirectly with institutions or nonprofit organizations, without regard to 41 U.S.C. 6101, for the temporary or intermittent services of students or recent graduates, who shall be considered employees for the purpose of chapters 57 and 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for travel and work injuries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, but shall not be considered to be Federal employees for any other purposes.

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

For expenses necessary for granting and administering leases, easements, rights-of-way, and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf and approving operations related thereto, as authorized by law; for environmental studies, as authorized by law; for implementing other laws and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, \$211,162,000, of which \$155,162,000 is to remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$56,000,000 is to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary of the Interior and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease

rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$155,162,000: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$3,000 shall be available for reasonable expenses related to promoting volunteer beach and marine cleanup activities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
OFFSHORE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

For expenses necessary for the regulation of operations related to leases, easements, rights-of-way, and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf, as authorized by law; for enforcing and implementing laws and regulations as authorized by law and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, \$167,330,000, of which \$136,450,000, including not to exceed \$3,000 for official reception and representation expenses, is to remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$30,880,000 is to remain available until expended, including \$2,880,000 for offshore decommissioning activities: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary of the Interior and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$139,330,000.

For an additional amount, \$38,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation, which shall be derived from non-refundable inspection fees collected in fiscal year 2024, as provided in this Act: *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2024, not less than 50 percent of the inspection fees expended by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement will be used to fund personnel and mission-related costs to expand capacity and expedite the orderly development, subject to environmental safeguards, of the Outer Continental Shelf pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), including the review of applications for permits to drill.

OIL SPILL RESEARCH

For necessary expenses to carry out title I, section 1016; title IV, sections 4202 and 4303; title VII; and title VIII, section 8201 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, \$15,099,000, which shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Surface Mining Control and

Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, \$116,186,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$62,400,000 shall be available for State and tribal regulatory grants, and of which not to exceed \$5,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That appropriations for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement may provide for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training.

In addition, for costs to review, administer, and enforce permits issued by the Office pursuant to section 507 of Public Law 95-87 (30 U.S.C. 1257), \$40,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That fees assessed and collected by the Office pursuant to such section 507 shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a fiscal year 2024 appropriation estimated at not more than \$116,186,000.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95-87, \$32,546,000, to be derived from receipts of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That pursuant to Public Law 97-365, the Department of the Interior is authorized to use up to 20 percent from the recovery of the delinquent debt owed to the United States Government to pay for contracts to collect these debts: *Provided further*, That funds made available under title IV of Public Law 95-87 may be used for any required non-Federal share of the cost of projects funded by the Federal Government for the purpose of environmental restoration related to treatment or abatement of acid mine drainage from abandoned mines: *Provided further*, That such projects must be consistent with the purposes and priorities of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this heading may be used for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading, not to exceed \$5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

In addition, \$130,000,000, to remain available until expended, for payments to States and federally recognized Indian tribes for reclamation of abandoned mine lands and other related activities in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such additional amount shall be used for economic and community development in conjunction with the priorities described in section 403(a) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1233(a)): *Provided further*, That of such additional amount, \$86,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the three Appalachian States with the greatest amount of unfunded needs to meet the priorities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of such section, \$33,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the three Appalachian States with the subsequent greatest amount of unfunded needs to meet such priorities, and \$11,000,000 shall be for grants to federally recognized Indian tribes, without regard to their status as certified or uncertified under the Surface Min-

ing Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1233(a)), for reclamation of abandoned mine lands and other related activities in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) and shall be used for economic and community development in conjunction with the priorities in section 403(a) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977: *Provided further*, That such payments shall be made to States and federally recognized Indian tribes not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That if payments have not been made by the date specified in the preceding proviso, the amount appropriated for salaries and expenses under the heading "Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement" shall be reduced by \$100,000 per day until such payments have been made.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the operation of Indian programs, as authorized by law, including the Snyder Act of November 2, 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13) and the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), \$1,898,550,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not to exceed \$78,494,000 shall be for welfare assistance payments: *Provided*, That in cases of designated Federal disasters, the Secretary of the Interior may exceed such cap for welfare payments from the amounts provided herein, to provide for disaster relief to Indian communities affected by the disaster: *Provided further*, That federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations of federally recognized Indian tribes may use their tribal priority allocations for unmet welfare assistance costs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$69,995,000 shall remain available until expended for housing improvement, road maintenance, land acquisition, attorney fees, litigation support, land records improvement, hearings and appeals, and the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Program: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$841,000 shall be for projects specified for Special Initiatives (CDS) in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That any forestry funds allocated to a federally recognized tribe which remain unobligated as of September 30, 2025, may be transferred during fiscal year 2026 to an Indian forest land assistance account established for the benefit of the holder of the funds within the holder's trust fund account: *Provided further*, That any such unobligated balances not so transferred shall expire on September 30, 2026: *Provided further*, That in order to enhance the safety of Bureau field employees, the Bureau may use funds to purchase uniforms or other identifying articles of clothing for personnel: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$7,096,000 of funds made available under this heading may, as needed, be transferred to "Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations" for trust, probate, and administrative functions: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of Indian Affairs may accept transfers of funds from United States

Customs and Border Protection to supplement any other funding available for reconstruction or repair of roads owned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as identified on the National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory, 23 U.S.C. 202(b)(1).

INDIAN LAND CONSOLIDATION

For the acquisition of fractional interests to further land consolidation as authorized under the Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000 (Public Law 106-462), and the American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-374), \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any provision of the Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments of 2000 (Public Law 106-462) that requires or otherwise relates to application of a lien shall not apply to the acquisitions funded herein.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for contract support costs associated with Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education for fiscal year 2024, such sums as may be necessary, which shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account.

PAYMENTS FOR TRIBAL LEASES

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for leases pursuant to section 105(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(l)) for fiscal year 2024, such sums as may be necessary, which shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For construction, repair, improvement, and maintenance of irrigation and power systems, buildings, utilities, and other facilities, including architectural and engineering services by contract; acquisition of lands, and interests in lands; and preparation of lands for farming, and for construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project pursuant to Public Law 87-483; \$133,780,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts as may be available for the construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project may be transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation: *Provided further*, That any funds provided for the Safety of Dams program pursuant to the Act of November 2, 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13), shall be made available on a nonreimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That this appropriation may be reimbursed from the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration appropriation for the appropriate share of construction costs for space expansion needed in agency offices to meet trust reform implementation: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be derived from the Indian Irrigation Fund established by section 3211 of the WIIN Act (Public Law 114-322; 130 Stat. 1749): *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this heading are made available for the modernization of Federal field communication capabilities, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose.

INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIM SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

For payments and necessary administrative expenses for implementation of Indian land and water claim settlements pursuant

to Public Laws 99-264, and 101-618, and for implementation of other land and water rights settlements, \$976,000, to remain available until expended.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans and insured loans, \$13,329,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$2,125,000 is for administrative expenses, as authorized by the Indian Financing Act of 1974: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed or insured, not to exceed \$185,707,188.

BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

OPERATION OF INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

For expenses necessary for the operation of Indian education programs, as authorized by law, including the Snyder Act of November 2, 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2001-2019), and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), \$1,131,617,000 to remain available until September 30, 2025, except as otherwise provided herein: *Provided*, That federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations of federally recognized Indian tribes may use their tribal priority allocations for unmet welfare assistance costs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$833,592,000 for school operations costs of Bureau-funded schools and other education programs shall become available on July 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, including but not limited to the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) and section 1128 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2008), not to exceed \$95,822,000 within and only from such amounts made available for school operations shall be available for administrative cost grants associated with grants approved prior to July 1, 2024: *Provided further*, That in order to enhance the safety of Bureau field employees, the Bureau may use funds to purchase uniforms or other identifying articles of clothing for personnel.

EDUCATION CONSTRUCTION

For construction, repair, improvement, and maintenance of buildings, utilities, and other facilities necessary for the operation of Indian education programs, including architectural and engineering services by contract; acquisition of lands, and interests in lands; \$234,725,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in order to ensure timely completion of construction projects, the Secretary of the Interior may assume control of a project and all funds related to the project, if, not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, any Public Law 100-297 (25 U.S.C. 2501, et seq.) grantee receiving funds appropriated in this Act or in any prior Act, has not completed the planning and design phase of the project and commenced construction.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education may carry out the operation of Indian programs by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, either directly or in cooperation with States and other organizations.

Notwithstanding Public Law 87-279 (25 U.S.C. 15), the Bureau of Indian Affairs may contract for services in support of the management, operation, and maintenance of the

Power Division of the San Carlos Irrigation Project.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Bureau of Indian Education for central office oversight and Executive Direction and Administrative Services (except Executive Direction and Administrative Services funding for Tribal Priority Allocations, regional offices, and facilities operations and maintenance) shall be available for contracts, grants, compacts, or cooperative agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Bureau of Indian Education under the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination Act or the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-413).

In the event any tribe returns appropriations made available by this Act to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Bureau of Indian Education, this action shall not diminish the Federal Government's trust responsibility to that tribe, or the government-to-government relationship between the United States and that tribe, or that tribe's ability to access future appropriations.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education, other than the amounts provided herein for assistance to public schools under 25 U.S.C. 452 et seq., shall be available to support the operation of any elementary or secondary school in the State of Alaska.

No funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education shall be used to support expanded grades for any school or dormitory beyond the grade structure in place or approved by the Secretary of the Interior at each school in the Bureau of Indian Education school system as of October 1, 1995, except that the Secretary of the Interior may waive this prohibition to support expansion of up to one additional grade when the Secretary determines such waiver is needed to support accomplishment of the mission of the Bureau of Indian Education, or more than one grade to expand the elementary grade structure for Bureau-funded schools with a K-2 grade structure on October 1, 1996. Appropriations made available in this or any prior Act for schools funded by the Bureau shall be available, in accordance with the Bureau's funding formula, only to the schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, and to any school or school program that was reinstated in fiscal year 2012. Funds made available under this Act may not be used to establish a charter school at a Bureau-funded school (as that term is defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021)), except that a charter school that is in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act and that has operated at a Bureau-funded school before September 1, 1999, may continue to operate during that period, but only if the charter school pays to the Bureau a pro rata share of funds to reimburse the Bureau for the use of the real and personal property (including buses and vans), the funds of the charter school are kept separate and apart from Bureau funds, and the Bureau does not assume any obligation for charter school programs of the State in which the school is located if the charter school loses such funding. Employees of Bureau-funded schools sharing a campus with a charter school and performing functions related to the charter school's operation and employees of a charter school shall not be treated as Federal employees for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including section 113 of title I of appendix C of Public Law 106-113, if in fiscal year 2003 or 2004 a grantee received indirect and administrative costs pursuant to a distribution formula based on section 5(f) of Public Law 101-301, the Secretary shall continue to

distribute indirect and administrative cost funds to such grantee using the section 5(f) distribution formula.

Funds available under this Act may not be used to establish satellite locations of schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, except that the Secretary may waive this prohibition in order for an Indian tribe to provide language and cultural immersion educational programs for non-public schools located within the jurisdictional area of the tribal government which exclusively serve tribal members, do not include grades beyond those currently served at the existing Bureau-funded school, provide an educational environment with educator presence and academic facilities comparable to the Bureau-funded school, comply with all applicable Tribal, Federal, or State health and safety standards, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and demonstrate the benefits of establishing operations at a satellite location in lieu of incurring extraordinary costs, such as for transportation or other impacts to students such as those caused by busing students extended distances: *Provided*, That no funds available under this Act may be used to fund operations, maintenance, rehabilitation, construction, or other facilities-related costs for such assets that are not owned by the Bureau: *Provided further*, That the term “satellite school” means a school location physically separated from the existing Bureau school by more than 50 miles but that forms part of the existing school in all other respects.

Funds made available for Tribal Priority Allocations within Operation of Indian Programs and Operation of Indian Education Programs may be used to execute requested adjustments in tribal priority allocations initiated by an Indian tribe.

BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the operation of trust programs for Indians by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, \$100,009,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$17,152,000 from this or any other Act, may be available for settlement support: *Provided*, That funds for trust management improvements and litigation support may, as needed, be transferred to or merged with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, “Operation of Indian Programs” and Bureau of Indian Education, “Operation of Indian Education Programs” accounts; the Office of the Solicitor, “Salaries and Expenses” account; and the Office of the Secretary, “Departmental Operations” account: *Provided further*, That funds made available through contracts or grants obligated during fiscal year 2024, as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), shall remain available until expended by the contractor or grantee: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not be required to provide a quarterly statement of performance for any Indian trust account that has not had activity for at least 15 months and has a balance of \$15 or less: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue an annual account statement and maintain a record of any such accounts and shall permit the balance in each such account to be withdrawn upon the express written request of the account holder: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$100,000 is available for the Secretary to make payments to correct administrative errors of either disbursements from or deposits to Individual Indian Money or Tribal accounts after September 30, 2002: *Provided further*, That erroneous payments that are recovered shall be

credited to and remain available in this account for this purpose: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not be required to reconcile Special Deposit Accounts with a balance of less than \$500 unless the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration receives proof of ownership from a Special Deposit Accounts claimant: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 102 of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-412) or any other provision of law, the Secretary may aggregate the trust accounts of individuals whose whereabouts are unknown for a continuous period of at least 5 years and shall not be required to generate periodic statements of performance for the individual accounts: *Provided further*, That with respect to the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall continue to maintain sufficient records to determine the balance of the individual accounts, including any accrued interest and income, and such funds shall remain available to the individual account holders.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for management of the Department of the Interior and for grants and cooperative agreements, as authorized by law, \$147,418,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses; of which up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for workers compensation payments and unemployment compensation payments associated with the orderly closure of the United States Bureau of Mines; and of which \$14,295,000 for Indian land, mineral, and resource valuation activities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds for Indian land, mineral, and resource valuation activities may, as needed, be transferred to and merged with the Bureau of Indian Affairs “Operation of Indian Programs” and Bureau of Indian Education “Operation of Indian Education Programs” accounts and the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration “Federal Trust Programs” account: *Provided further*, That funds made available through contracts or grants obligated during fiscal year 2024, as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), shall remain available until expended by the contractor or grantee: *Provided further*, That funds provided under this heading in this Act may be transferred to and merged with “United States Fish and Wildlife Service—Resource Management” only to implement the functional transfer of the Office of Subsistence Management to the Office of the Secretary and maintain uninterrupted execution of ongoing subsistence management activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

For fiscal year 2024, up to \$400,000 of the payments authorized by chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code, may be retained for administrative expenses of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program: *Provided*, That the amounts provided under this Act specifically for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program are the only amounts available for payments authorized under chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in the event the sums appropriated for any fiscal year for payments pursuant to this chapter are insufficient to make the full payments authorized by that chapter to all units of local government, then the payment to each local government shall be made proportionally: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may make adjustments to payment to individual units of local government to correct for prior overpayments or underpay-

ments: *Provided further*, That no payment shall be made pursuant to that chapter to otherwise eligible units of local government if the computed amount of the payment is less than \$100.

INSULAR AFFAIRS
ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

For expenses necessary for assistance to territories under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and other jurisdictions identified in section 104(e) of Public Law 108-188, \$120,107,000, of which: (1) \$109,890,000 shall remain available until expended for territorial assistance, including general technical assistance, maintenance assistance, disaster assistance, coral reef initiative and natural resources activities, and brown tree snake control and research; grants to the judiciary in American Samoa for compensation and expenses, as authorized by law (48 U.S.C. 1661(c)); grants to the Government of American Samoa, in addition to current local revenues, for construction and support of governmental functions; grants to the Government of the Virgin Islands, as authorized by law; grants to the Government of Guam, as authorized by law; and grants to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, as authorized by law (Public Law 94-241; 90 Stat. 272); and (2) \$10,217,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025, for salaries and expenses of the Office of Insular Affairs: *Provided*, That all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments herein provided for, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments, may be audited by the Government Accountability Office, at its discretion, in accordance with chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That Northern Mariana Islands Covenant grant funding shall be provided according to those terms of the Agreement of the Special Representatives on Future United States Financial Assistance for the Northern Mariana Islands approved by Public Law 104-134: *Provided further*, That the funds for the program of operations and maintenance improvement are appropriated to institutionalize routine operations and maintenance improvement of capital infrastructure with territorial participation and cost sharing to be determined by the Secretary based on the grantee’s commitment to timely maintenance of its capital assets: *Provided further*, That any appropriation for disaster assistance under this heading in this Act or previous appropriations Acts may be used as non-Federal matching funds for the purpose of hazard mitigation grants provided pursuant to section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c).

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

For grants and necessary expenses, \$3,463,000, to remain available until expended, as provided for in sections 221(a)(2) and 233 of the Compact of Free Association for the Republic of Palau; and section 221(a)(2) of the Compacts of Free Association for the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, as authorized by Public Law 99-658 and Public Law 108-188.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

At the request of the Governor of Guam, the Secretary may transfer discretionary funds or mandatory funds provided under section 104(e) of Public Law 108-188 and Public Law 104-134, that are allocated for Guam, to the Secretary of Agriculture for the subsidy cost of direct or guaranteed loans, plus not to exceed three percent of the amount of the subsidy transferred for the cost of loan

administration, for the purposes authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act for construction and repair projects in Guam, and such funds shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such loans or loan guarantees may be made without regard to the population of the area, credit elsewhere requirements, and restrictions on the types of eligible entities under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available to make or guarantee loans under such authorities.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Solicitor, \$97,950,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, \$67,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS
WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for fire preparedness, fire suppression operations, fire science and research, emergency rehabilitation, fuels management activities, and rural fire assistance by the Department of the Interior, \$1,113,471,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall be for the renovation or construction of fire facilities: *Provided*, That such funds are also available for repayment of advances to other appropriation accounts from which funds were previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided \$214,450,000 is for fuels management activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided \$10,000,000 is for burned area rehabilitation: *Provided further*, That persons hired pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1469 may be furnished subsistence and lodging without cost from funds available from this appropriation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 1856d, sums received by a bureau or office of the Department of the Interior for fire protection rendered pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1856 et seq., protection of United States property, may be credited to the appropriation from which funds were expended to provide that protection, and are available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That using the amounts designated under this title of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into procurement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, for fuels management activities, and for training and monitoring associated with such fuels management activities on Federal land, or on adjacent non-Federal land for activities that benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding requirements of the Competition in Contracting Act, the Secretary, for purposes of fuels management activities, may obtain maximum practicable competition among: (1) local private, non-profit, or cooperative entities; (2) Youth Conservation Corps crews, Public Lands Corps (Public Law 109-154), or related partnerships

with State, local, or nonprofit youth groups; (3) small or micro-businesses; or (4) other entities that will hire or train locally a significant percentage, defined as 50 percent or more, of the project workforce to complete such contracts: *Provided further*, That in implementing this section, the Secretary shall develop written guidance to field units to ensure accountability and consistent application of the authorities provided herein: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for the costs of carrying out their responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) to consult and conference, as required by section 7 of such Act, in connection with wildland fire management activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may use wildland fire appropriations to enter into leases of real property with local governments, at or below fair market value, to construct capitalized improvements for fire facilities on such leased properties, including but not limited to fire guard stations, retardant stations, and other initial attack and fire support facilities, and to make advance payments for any such lease or for construction activity associated with the lease: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50,000,000 between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: *Provided further*, That funds provided for wildfire suppression shall be available for support of Federal emergency response actions: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for assistance to or through the Department of State in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall be available to support forestry, wildland fire management, and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States and international organizations: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading in this Act and unobligated balances made available under this heading in prior Acts, other than amounts designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, shall be available, in addition to any other funds made available for such purpose, to continue uninterrupted the Federal wildland firefighter base salary increases provided under section 40803(d)(4)(B) of Public Law 117-58: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$383,657,000 shall be available for wildfire suppression operations, and is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(F)(ii)(I) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE
FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

In addition to the amounts provided under the heading "Department of the Interior—Department-Wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management" for wildfire suppression operations, \$350,000,000, to remain available until transferred, is additional new budget authority as specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(F) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Pro-*

vided, That such amounts may be transferred to and merged with amounts made available under the headings "Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management" and "Department of the Interior—Department-Wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management" for wildfire suppression operations in the fiscal year in which such amounts are transferred: *Provided further*, That amounts may be transferred to the "Wildland Fire Management" accounts in the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior only upon the notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under that heading in this and prior appropriations Acts to the agency to which the funds will be transferred will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That, in determining whether all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under the heading "Wildland Fire Management" in this and prior appropriations Acts to either the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior will be obligated within 30 days pursuant to the preceding proviso, any funds transferred or permitted to be transferred pursuant to any other transfer authority provided by law shall be excluded.

CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

For necessary expenses of the Department of the Interior and any of its component offices and bureaus for the response action, including associated activities, performed pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), \$9,661,000, to remain available until expended.

ENERGY COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of the Interior to inventory, assess, decommission, reclaim, respond to hazardous substance releases, remediate lands pursuant to section 40704 of Public Law 117-58 (30 U.S.C. 1245), and carry out the purposes of section 349 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15907), as amended, \$4,800,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount shall be in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That amounts appropriated under this heading are available for program management and oversight of these activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may transfer the funds provided under this heading in this Act to any other account in the Department to carry out such purposes, and may expend such funds directly, or through grants: *Provided further*, That these amounts are not available to fulfill Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) obligations agreed to in settlement or imposed by a court, whether for payment of funds or for work to be performed.

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND
RESTORATION

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND

To conduct natural resource damage assessment, restoration activities, and onshore oil spill preparedness by the Department of the Interior necessary to carry out the provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), and 54 U.S.C. 100721 et seq., \$7,715,000, to remain available until expended.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For the operation and maintenance of a departmental financial and business management system, data management, information technology improvements of general benefit to the Department, cybersecurity, and the consolidation of facilities and operations throughout the Department, \$107,710,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act or any other Act may be used to establish reserves in the Working Capital Fund account other than for accrued annual leave and depreciation of equipment without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may assess reasonable charges to State, local, and tribal government employees for training services provided by the National Indian Program Training Center, other than training related to Public Law 93-638: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may lease or otherwise provide space and related facilities, equipment, or professional services of the National Indian Program Training Center to State, local and tribal government employees or persons or organizations engaged in cultural, educational, or recreational activities (as defined in section 3306(a) of title 40, United States Code) at the prevailing rate for similar space, facilities, equipment, or services in the vicinity of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That all funds received pursuant to the two preceding provisos shall be credited to this account, shall be available until expended, and shall be used by the Secretary for necessary expenses of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may enter into grants and cooperative agreements to support the Office of Natural Resource Revenue's collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, as authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

There is hereby authorized for acquisition from available resources within the Working Capital Fund, aircraft which may be obtained by donation, purchase, or through available excess surplus property: *Provided*, That existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft.

OFFICE OF NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE

For necessary expenses for management of the collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, and for grants and cooperative agreements, as authorized by law, \$167,937,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; of which \$69,751,000 shall remain available until expended for the purpose of mineral revenue management activities: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$15,000 shall be available for refunds of overpayments in connection with certain Indian leases in which the Secretary of the Interior concurred with the claimed refund due, to pay amounts owed to Indian allottees or tribes, or to correct prior unrecoverable erroneous payments.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—INTRA-BUREAU

SEC. 101. Appropriations made in this title shall be available for expenditure or transfer (within each bureau or office), with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, for the emergency reconstruction, replacement,

or repair of aircraft, buildings, utilities, or other facilities or equipment damaged or destroyed by fire, flood, storm, or other unavoidable causes: *Provided*, That no funds shall be made available under this authority until funds specifically made available to the Department of the Interior for emergencies shall have been exhausted: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible.

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—DEPARTMENT-WIDE

SEC. 102. The Secretary of the Interior may authorize the expenditure or transfer of any no year appropriation in this title, in addition to the amounts included in the budget programs of the several agencies, for the suppression or emergency prevention of wildland fires on or threatening lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior; for the emergency rehabilitation of burned-over lands under its jurisdiction; for emergency actions related to potential or actual earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, storms, or other unavoidable causes; for contingency planning subsequent to actual oil spills; for response and natural resource damage assessment activities related to actual oil spills or releases of hazardous substances into the environment; for the prevention, suppression, and control of actual or potential grasshopper and Mormon cricket outbreaks on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary, pursuant to the authority in section 417(b) of Public Law 106-224 (7 U.S.C. 7717(b)); for emergency reclamation projects under section 410 of Public Law 95-87; and shall transfer, from any no year funds available to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, such funds as may be necessary to permit assumption of regulatory authority in the event a primacy State is not carrying out the regulatory provisions of the Surface Mining Act: *Provided*, That appropriations made in this title for wildland fire operations shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for destruction of vehicles, aircraft, or other equipment in connection with their use for wildland fire operations, with such reimbursement to be credited to appropriations currently available at the time of receipt thereof: *Provided further*, That for wildland fire operations, no funds shall be made available under this authority until the Secretary determines that funds appropriated for "wildland fire suppression" shall be exhausted within 30 days: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible: *Provided further*, That such replenishment funds shall be used to reimburse, on a pro rata basis, accounts from which emergency funds were transferred.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 103. Appropriations made to the Department of the Interior in this title shall be available for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, when authorized by the Secretary of the Interior, in total amount not to exceed \$500,000; purchase and replacement of motor vehicles, including specially equipped law enforcement vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles; purchase of reprints; payment for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary; and the payment of dues, when authorized by the Secretary, for library membership in societies or associations which issue publications to members

only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS, INDIAN TRUST MANAGEMENT

SEC. 104. Appropriations made in this Act under the headings Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and Bureau of Trust Funds Administration and any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts made under the same headings shall be available for expenditure or transfer for Indian trust management and reform activities. Total funding for settlement support activities shall not exceed amounts specifically designated in this Act for such purpose. The Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 60 days of the expenditure or transfer of any funds under this section, including the amount expended or transferred and how the funds will be used.

REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to redistribute any Tribal Priority Allocation funds, including tribal base funds, to alleviate tribal funding inequities by transferring funds to address identified, unmet needs, dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies. No tribe shall receive a reduction in Tribal Priority Allocation funds of more than 10 percent in fiscal year 2024. Under circumstances of dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies, the 10 percent limitation does not apply.

ELLIS, GOVERNORS, AND LIBERTY ISLANDS

SEC. 106. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein, including the use of all or part of any pier, dock, or landing within the State of New York and the State of New Jersey, for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities in the support of transportation and accommodation of visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands, and of other program and administrative activities, by donation or with appropriated funds, including franchise fees (and other monetary consideration), or by exchange; and the Secretary is authorized to negotiate and enter into leases, subleases, concession contracts, or other agreements for the use of such facilities on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine reasonable.

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF INSPECTION FEES

SEC. 107. (a) In fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of the Interior shall collect a non-refundable inspection fee, which shall be deposited in the "Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement" account, from the designated operator for facilities subject to inspection under 43 U.S.C. 1348(c).

(b) Annual fees shall be collected for facilities that are above the waterline, excluding drilling rigs, and are in place at the start of the fiscal year. Fees for fiscal year 2024 shall be—

- (1) \$10,500 for facilities with no wells, but with processing equipment or gathering lines;
- (2) \$17,000 for facilities with 1 to 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells; and
- (3) \$31,500 for facilities with more than 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells.

(c) Fees for drilling rigs shall be assessed for all inspections completed in fiscal year 2024. Fees for fiscal year 2024 shall be—

- (1) \$30,500 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of 500 feet or more; and
- (2) \$16,700 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

(d) Fees for inspection of well operations conducted via non-rig units as outlined in title 30 CFR 250 subparts D, E, F, and Q shall be assessed for all inspections completed in fiscal year 2024. Fees for fiscal year 2024 shall be—

(1) \$13,260 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths of 2,500 feet or more;

(2) \$11,530 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths between 500 and 2,499 feet; and

(3) \$4,470 per inspection for non-rig units operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

(e) The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (b) quarterly, with payment required within 30 days of billing. The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (c) within 30 days of the end of the month in which the inspection occurred, with payment required within 30 days of billing. The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (d) with payment required by the end of the following quarter.

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS FOR WILD HORSE AND BURRO HOLDING FACILITIES

SEC. 108. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into multiyear cooperative agreements with nonprofit organizations and other appropriate entities, and may enter into multiyear contracts in accordance with the provisions of section 3903 of title 41, United States Code (except that the 5-year term restriction in subsection (a) shall not apply), for the long-term care and maintenance of excess wild free roaming horses and burros by such organizations or entities on private land. Such cooperative agreements and contracts may not exceed 10 years, subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary.

MASS MARKING OF SALMONIDS

SEC. 109. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall, in carrying out its responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species of salmon, implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks, intended for harvest, that are released from federally operated or federally financed hatcheries including but not limited to fish releases of coho, chinook, and steelhead species. Marked fish must have a visible mark that can be readily identified by commercial and recreational fishers.

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 110. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2024, in carrying out work involving cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments or any political subdivision thereof, Indian Affairs may record obligations against accounts receivable from any such entities, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR EXPERIENCED SERVICES PROGRAM

SEC. 111. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to Federal grants and cooperative agreements, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, private nonprofit organizations designated by the Secretary of Labor under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 to utilize the talents of older Americans in programs authorized by other provisions of law administered by the Secretary and consistent with such provisions of law.

(b) Prior to awarding any grant or agreement under subsection (a), the Secretary shall ensure that the agreement would not—

(1) result in the displacement of individuals currently employed by the Department, including partial displacement through reduction of non-overtime hours, wages, or employment benefits;

(2) result in the use of an individual under the Department of the Interior Experienced Services Program for a job or function in a case in which a Federal employee is in a lay-off status from the same or substantially equivalent job within the Department; or

(3) affect existing contracts for services.

OBLIGATION OF FUNDS

SEC. 112. Amounts appropriated by this Act to the Department of the Interior shall be available for obligation and expenditure not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEPARATION OF ACCOUNTS

SEC. 113. The Secretary of the Interior, in order to implement an orderly transition to separate accounts of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education, may transfer funds among and between the successor offices and bureaus affected by the reorganization only in conformance with the reprogramming guidelines described in this Act.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILT)

SEC. 114. Section 6906 of title 31, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2019”.

DISCLOSURE OF DEPARTURE OR ALTERNATE PROCEDURE APPROVAL

SEC. 115. (a) Subject to subsection (b), in any case in which the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement or the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management prescribes or approves any departure or use of alternate procedure or equipment, in regards to a plan or permit, under 30 CFR 585.103; 30 CFR 550.141; 30 CFR 550.142; 30 CFR 250.141; or 30 CFR 250.142, the head of such bureau shall post a description of such departure or alternate procedure or equipment use approval on such bureau's publicly available website not more than 15 business days after such issuance.

(b) The head of each bureau may exclude confidential business information.

LONG BRIDGE PROJECT

SEC. 116. (a) AUTHORIZATION OF CONVEYANCE.—On request by the State of Virginia or the District of Columbia for the purpose of the construction of rail and other infrastructure relating to the Long Bridge Project, the Secretary of the Interior may convey to the State or the District of Columbia, as applicable, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to any portion of the approximately 4.4 acres of National Park Service land depicted as “Permanent Impact to NPS Land” on the Map dated May 15, 2020, that is identified by the State or the District of Columbia.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Such conveyance of the National Park Service land under subsection (a) shall be subject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary may require. If such conveyed land is no longer being used for the purposes specified in this section, the lands or interests therein shall revert to the National Park Service after they have been restored or remediated to the satisfaction of the Secretary.

(c) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary and the State or the District of Columbia, as applicable, by mutual agreement, may—

(1) make minor boundary adjustments to the National Park Service land to be conveyed to the State or the District of Columbia under subsection (a); and

(2) correct any minor errors in the Map referred to in subsection (a).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) LONG BRIDGE PROJECT.—The term “Long Bridge Project” means the rail project, as identified by the Federal Railroad Administration, from Rosslyn (RO) Interlocking in Arlington, Virginia, to L'Enfant (LE) Interlocking in Washington, DC, which includes a bicycle and pedestrian bridge.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” means the State of Virginia.

INTERAGENCY MOTOR POOL

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or Federal regulation, federally recognized Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations that receive Tribally-Controlled School Grants pursuant to Public Law 100-297 may obtain interagency motor vehicles and related services for performance of any activities carried out under such grants to the same extent as if they were contracting under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

APPRAISER PAY AUTHORITY

SEC. 118. For fiscal year 2024, funds made available in this or any other Act or otherwise made available to the Department of the Interior for the Appraisal and Valuation Services Office may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to establish higher minimum rates of basic pay for employees of the Department of the Interior in the Appraiser (GS-1171) job series at grades 11 through 15 carrying out appraisals of real property and appraisal reviews conducted in support of the Department's realty programs at rates no greater than 15 percent above the minimum rates of basic pay normally scheduled, and such higher rates shall be consistent with subsections (e) through (h) of section 5305 of title 5, United States Code.

SAGE-GROUSE

SEC. 119. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to write or issue pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533)—

(1) a proposed rule for greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*);

(2) a proposed rule for the Columbia basin distinct population segment of greater sage-grouse.

STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS

SEC. 120. For expenses necessary to carry out section 200305 of title 54, United States Code, the National Park Service may retain up to 7 percent of the State Conservation Grants program to provide to States, the District of Columbia, and insular areas, as matching grants to support state program administrative costs.

RETENTION OF CONCESSION FRANCHISE FEES

SEC. 121. Section 101917(c) of title 54, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) REDUCTION.—The Secretary may reduce the percentage allocation otherwise applicable under paragraph (2) to a unit or area of the National Park Service for a fiscal year if the Secretary determines that the revenues collected at the unit or area exceed the reasonable needs of the unit or area for which expenditures may be made for that fiscal year. In no event may a percentage allocation be reduced below 60 percent.”.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND DEPOSITS

SEC. 122. Section 303102 of title 54, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2023”.

DECOMMISSIONING ACCOUNT

SEC. 123. The matter under the amended heading “Royalty and Offshore Minerals

Management” for the Minerals Management Service in Public Law 101-512 (104 Stat. 1926, as amended) (43 U.S.C. 1338a) is further amended by striking the fifth and sixth provisions in their entirety and inserting the following: “*Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, any moneys hereafter received as a result of the forfeiture of a bond or other security by an Outer Continental Shelf permittee, lessee, or right-of-way holder that does not fulfill the requirements of its permit, lease, or right-of-way or does not comply with the regulations of the Secretary, or as a bankruptcy distribution or settlement associated with such failure or noncompliance, shall be credited to a separate account established in the Treasury for decommissioning activities and shall be available to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation to cover the cost to the United States of any improvement, protection, rehabilitation, or decommissioning work rendered necessary by the action or inaction that led to the forfeiture or bankruptcy distribution or settlement, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited into the decommissioning account may be allocated to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement for such costs: *Provided further*, That any moneys received for such costs currently held in the Ocean Energy Management account shall be transferred to the decommissioning account: *Provided further*, That any portion of the moneys so credited shall be returned to the bankruptcy estate, permittee, lessee, or right-of-way holder to the extent that the money is in excess of the amount expended in performing the work necessitated by the action or inaction which led to their receipt or, if the bond or security was forfeited for failure to pay the civil penalty, in excess of the civil penalty imposed.”

NONRECURRING EXPENSES FUND

SEC. 124. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the “Department of the Interior Nonrecurring Expenses Fund” (the Fund): *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of the Interior by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated) into the Fund: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for information and business technology system modernization and facilities infrastructure improvements and associated administrative expenses, including nonrecurring maintenance, necessary for the operation of the Department or its bureaus, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may not be obligated without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in conformance with the reprogramming guidelines described in this Act.

EBEY’S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORIC RESERVE

SEC. 125. Section 508(f) of Public Law 95-625 (92 stat. 3509) is amended by striking “not to exceed \$5,000,000” and inserting “\$18,000,000”.

INTERIOR AUTHORITY FOR OPERATING EFFICIENCIES

SEC. 126. (a) In fiscal years 2024 and 2025, the Secretary of the Interior may authorize and execute agreements to achieve operating

efficiencies among and between two or more component bureaus and offices through the following activities:

(1) co-locating in offices and facilities leased or owned by any such component and sharing related utilities and equipment;

(2) detailing or assigning staff on a non-reimbursable basis for up to 5 business days; and

(3) sharing staff and equipment necessary to meet mission requirements.

(b) The authority provided by subsection (a) is to support areas of mission alignment between and among component bureaus and offices or where geographic proximity allows for efficiencies.

(c) Bureaus and offices entering into agreements authorized under subsections (a)(1) and (a)(3) shall bear costs for such agreements in a manner that reflects their approximate benefit and share of total costs, which may or may not include indirect costs.

(d) In furtherance of the requirement in subsection (c), the Secretary of the Interior may make transfers of funds in advance or on a reimbursable basis.

TITLE II

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For science and technology, including research and development activities, which shall include research and development activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; necessary expenses for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; procurement of laboratory equipment and supplies; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; and other operating expenses in support of research and development, \$758,103,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the funds included under this heading, \$19,530,000 shall be for Research: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which \$2,030,000 shall be for projects specified for Science and Technology in the table titled “Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; purchase of reprints; library memberships in societies or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members; administrative costs of the brownfields program under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002; implementation of a coal combustion residual permit program under section 2301 of the Water and Waste Act of 2016; and not to exceed \$40,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$3,178,028,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That of the funds included under this heading—

(1) \$30,700,000 shall be for Environmental Protection: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act);

(2) \$681,726,000 shall be for Geographic Programs as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter

preceding division A of this consolidated Act); and

(3) \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for grants, including grants that may be awarded on a non-competitive basis, interagency agreements, and associated program support costs to establish and implement a program to assist Alaska Native Regional Corporations, Alaskan Native Village Corporations, federally-recognized tribes in Alaska, Alaska Native Non-Profit Organizations and Alaska Native Nonprofit Associations, and intertribal consortia comprised of Alaskan tribal entities to address contamination on lands conveyed under or pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) that were or are contaminated at the time of conveyance and are on an inventory of such lands developed and maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency: *Provided*, That grants awarded using funds made available in this paragraph may be used by a recipient to supplement other funds provided by the Environmental Protection Agency through individual media or multi-media grants or cooperative agreements: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available in this paragraph, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, the Environmental Protection Agency may reserve up to \$2,000,000 for salaries, expenses, and administration of the program and for grants related to such program that address contamination on lands conveyed under or pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) that were or are contaminated at the time of conveyance and are on the EPA inventory of such lands.

In addition, \$9,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses of activities described in section 26(b)(1) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2625(b)(1)): *Provided*, That fees collected pursuant to that section of that Act and deposited in the “TSCA Service Fee Fund” as discretionary offsetting receipts in fiscal year 2024 shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated in this paragraph from the general fund for fiscal year 2024 shall be reduced by the amount of discretionary offsetting receipts received during fiscal year 2024, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$0: *Provided further*, That to the extent that amounts realized from such receipts exceed \$9,000,000, those amounts in excess of \$9,000,000 shall be deposited in the “TSCA Service Fee Fund” as discretionary offsetting receipts in fiscal year 2024, shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the funds included in the first paragraph under this heading, the Chemical Risk Review and Reduction program project shall be allocated for this fiscal year, excluding the amount of any fees appropriated, not less than the amount of appropriations for that program project for fiscal year 2014.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$43,250,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Office of Inspector General shall be subject to the terms, conditions, and requirements specified under this heading in Senate Report 118-83.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of, or for use by, the

Environmental Protection Agency, \$40,676,000, to remain available until expended.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including sections 111(c)(3), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (e)(4) (42 U.S.C. 9611), and hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft, \$537,700,000, to remain available until expended, consisting of such sums as are available in the Trust Fund on September 30, 2023, and not otherwise appropriated from the Trust Fund, as authorized by section 517(a) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) and up to \$537,700,000 as a payment from general revenues to the Hazardous Substance Superfund for purposes as authorized by section 517(b) of SARA: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be allocated to other Federal agencies in accordance with section 111(a) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, \$11,328,000 shall be paid to the "Office of Inspector General" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2025, and \$30,343,000 shall be paid to the "Science and Technology" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2025.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST
FUND PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, \$89,214,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$64,723,000 shall be for carrying out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; and \$24,491,000 shall be for carrying out the other provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to use appropriations made available under this heading to implement section 9013 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide financial assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes for the development and implementation of programs to manage underground storage tanks.

INLAND OIL SPILL PROGRAMS

For expenses necessary to carry out the Environmental Protection Agency's responsibilities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, including hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft, \$20,711,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability trust fund, to remain available until expended.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS
(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For environmental programs and infrastructure assistance, including capitalization grants for State revolving funds and performance partnership grants, \$4,418,938,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) \$1,638,861,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and of which \$1,126,101,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided*, That \$787,652,267 of the funds made available for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds and \$631,659,905 of the funds made available for capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds shall be for the construction of drinking water, wastewater, and storm water

infrastructure and for water quality protection in accordance with the terms and conditions specified for such grants in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) for projects specified for "STAG—Drinking Water State Revolving Fund" and "STAG—Clean Water State Revolving Fund" in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and, for purposes of these grants, each grantee shall contribute not less than 20 percent of the cost of the project unless the grantee is approved for a waiver by the Agency: *Provided further*, That \$13,300,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds and for capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, may be used by the Administrator for salaries, expenses, and administration for Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items: *Provided further*, That the amounts in the preceding proviso under this heading shall not be available for obligation until the report, as specified under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) is received by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, to the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications and projects are consistent with State Intended Use Plans, not less than 10 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants may, at the discretion of each State, be used for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That the Administrator is authorized to use up to \$1,500,000 of funds made available for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under this heading under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381) to conduct the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 603(d)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the limitation on the amounts in a State water pollution control revolving fund that may be used by a State to administer the fund shall not apply to amounts included as principal in loans made by such fund in fiscal year 2024 and prior years where such amounts represent costs of administering the fund to the extent that such amounts are or were deemed reasonable by the Administrator, accounted for separately from other assets in the fund, and used for eligible purposes of the fund, including administration: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (g)(1), (h), and (l) of section 201 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, grants made under title II of such Act for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the United States Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia may also be made for the purpose of providing assistance: (1) solely for facility plans, design activities, or plans, specifications, and esti-

mates for any proposed project for the construction of treatment works; and (2) for the construction, repair, or replacement of privately owned treatment works serving one or more principal residences or small commercial establishments: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding the provisions of such subsections (g)(1), (h), and (l) of section 201 and section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, funds reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act may also be used to provide assistance: (1) solely for facility plans, design activities, or plans, specifications, and estimates for any proposed project for the construction of treatment works; and (2) for the construction, repair, or replacement of privately owned treatment works serving one or more principal residences or small commercial establishments: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding any provision of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and regulations issued pursuant thereof, up to a total of \$2,000,000 of the funds reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) of such Act may also be used for grants for training, technical assistance, and educational programs relating to the operation and management of the treatment works specified in section 518(c) of such Act: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, funds reserved under section 518(c) of such Act shall be available for grants only to Indian tribes, as defined in section 518(h) of such Act and former Indian reservations in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior) and Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, up to a total of 2 percent of the funds appropriated, or \$30,000,000, whichever is greater, and notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 1452(i) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to a total of 2 percent of the funds appropriated, or \$20,000,000, whichever is greater, for State Revolving Funds under such Acts may be reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) and section 1452(i) of such Acts: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding the amounts specified in section 205(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, up to 1.5 percent of the aggregate funds appropriated for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program under the Act less any sums reserved under section 518(c) of the Act, may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and United States Virgin Islands: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding the limitations on amounts specified in section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to 1.5 percent of the funds appropriated for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs under the Safe Drinking Water Act may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants and 14 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, or grants (or any combination of these), and shall be so used by the State only where such funds are provided as initial financing for an eligible recipient or to buy, refinance, or restructure the debt obligations

of eligible recipients only where such debt was incurred on or after the date of enactment of this Act, or where such debt was incurred prior to the date of enactment of this Act if the State, with concurrence from the Administrator, determines that such funds could be used to help address a threat to public health from heightened exposure to lead in drinking water or if a Federal or State emergency declaration has been issued due to a threat to public health from heightened exposure to lead in a municipal drinking water supply before the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That in a State in which such an emergency declaration has been issued, the State may use more than 14 percent of the funds made available under this title to the State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1452(o) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12(o)), the Administrator shall reserve up to \$12,000,000 of the amounts made available for fiscal year 2024 for making capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds to pay the costs of monitoring for unregulated contaminants under section 1445(a)(2)(C) of such Act: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances available in the “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” account appropriated prior to fiscal year 2012 for “special project grants” or “special needs infrastructure grants,” or for the administration, management, and oversight of such grants, \$1,500,000 are permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending grants in this or prior appropriations Acts are not subject to compliance with Federal procurement requirements for competition and methods of procurement applicable to Federal financial assistance, if a Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending recipient has procured services or products through contracts entered into prior to the date of enactment of this legislation that complied with state and/or local laws governing competition;

(2) \$35,000,000 shall be for architectural, engineering, planning, design, construction and related activities in connection with the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities in the area of the United States-Mexico Border, after consultation with the appropriate border commission: *Provided*, That no funds provided by this appropriations Act to address the water, wastewater and other critical infrastructure needs of the colonias in the United States along the United States-Mexico border shall be made available to a county or municipal government unless that government has established an enforceable local ordinance, or other zoning rule, which prevents in that jurisdiction the development or construction of any additional colonia areas, or the development within an existing colonia the construction of any new home, business, or other structure which lacks water, wastewater, or other necessary infrastructure;

(3) \$39,000,000 shall be for grants to the State of Alaska to address drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs of rural and Alaska Native Villages: *Provided*, That of these funds: (A) the State of Alaska shall provide a match of 25 percent; (B) no more than 5 percent of the funds may be used for administrative and overhead expenses; and (C) the State of Alaska shall make awards

consistent with the Statewide priority list established in conjunction with the Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for all water, sewer, waste disposal, and similar projects carried out by the State of Alaska that are funded under section 221 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1301) or the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) which shall allocate not less than 25 percent of the funds provided for projects in regional hub communities;

(4) \$98,000,000 shall be to carry out section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including grants, inter-agency agreements, and associated program support costs: *Provided*, That at least 10 percent shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1993 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, the 2000 decennial census, and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, or any territory or possession of the United States;

(5) \$90,000,000 shall be for grants under title VII, subtitle G of the Energy Policy Act of 2005;

(6) \$67,800,000 shall be for targeted airshed grants in accordance with the terms and conditions in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act);

(7) \$28,500,000 shall be for grants under subsections (a) through (j) of section 1459A of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19a): *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2024, funds provided under subsections (a) through (j) of such section of such Act may be used—

(A) by a State to provide assistance to benefit one or more owners of drinking water wells that are not public water systems or connected to a public water system for necessary and appropriate activities related to a contaminant pursuant to subsection (j) of such section of such Act; and

(B) to support a community described in subsection (c)(2) of such section of such Act;

(8) \$28,000,000 shall be for grants under section 1464(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-24(d));

(9) \$22,000,000 shall be for grants under section 1459B of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19b);

(10) \$6,500,000 shall be for grants under section 1459A(l) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19a(l));

(11) \$25,500,000 shall be for grants under section 104(b)(8) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1254(b)(8));

(12) \$41,000,000 shall be for grants under section 221 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1301);

(13) \$5,400,000 shall be for grants under section 4304(b) of the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-270);

(14) \$5,000,000 shall be for carrying out section 302(a) of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (33 U.S.C. 4282(a)), of which not more than 2 percent shall be for administrative costs to carry out such section: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 302(a) of such Act, the Administrator may also provide grants pursuant to such authority to intertribal consortia consistent with the requirements in 40 CFR 35.504(a), to former Indian reservations in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), and Alaska Native Villages as defined in Public Law 92-203;

(15) \$7,000,000 shall be for grants under section 103(b)(3) of the Clean Air Act for wildfire smoke preparedness grants in accordance with the terms and conditions in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in

the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That not more than 3 percent shall be for administrative costs to carry out such section;

(16) \$38,693,000 shall be for State and Tribal Assistance Grants to be allocated in the amounts specified for those projects and for the purposes delineated in the table titled “Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) for remediation, construction, and related environmental management activities in accordance with the terms and conditions specified for such grants in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act);

(17) \$2,250,000 shall be for grants under section 1459F of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19g);

(18) \$4,000,000 shall be for carrying out section 2001 of the America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-270, 42 U.S.C. 300j-3c note): *Provided*, That the Administrator may award grants to and enter into contracts with tribes, intertribal consortia, public or private agencies, institutions, organizations, and individuals, without regard to section 3324(a) and (b) of title 31 and section 6101 of title 41, United States Code, and enter into interagency agreements as appropriate;

(19) \$2,000,000 shall be for grants under section 50217(b) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (33 U.S.C. 1302(f); Public Law 117-58);

(20) \$3,500,000 shall be for grants under section 124 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1276); and

(21) \$1,106,333,000 shall be for grants, including associated program support costs, to States, federally recognized tribes, interstate agencies, tribal consortia, and air pollution control agencies for multi-media or single media pollution prevention, control and abatement, and related activities, including activities pursuant to the provisions set forth under this heading in Public Law 104-134, and for making grants under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for particulate matter monitoring and data collection activities subject to terms and conditions specified by the Administrator, and under section 2301 of the Water and Waste Act of 2016 to assist States in developing and implementing programs for control of coal combustion residuals, of which: \$46,250,000 shall be for carrying out section 128 of CERCLA; \$9,500,000 shall be for Environmental Information Exchange Network grants, including associated program support costs; \$1,475,000 shall be for grants to States under section 2007(f)(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, which shall be in addition to funds appropriated under the heading “Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program” to carry out the provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code other than section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; \$18,512,000 of the funds available for grants under section 106 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act shall be for State participation in national- and State-level statistical surveys of water resources and enhancements to State monitoring programs.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans and for the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, \$64,634,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such

loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, including capitalized interest, and total loan principal, including capitalized interest, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$12,500,000,000: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$5,000,000 shall be used solely for the cost of direct loans and for the cost of guaranteed loans for projects described in section 5026(9) of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 to State infrastructure financing authorities, as authorized by section 5033(e) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the use of direct loans or loan guarantee authority under this heading for direct loans or commitments to guarantee loans for any project shall be in accordance with the criteria published in the Federal Register on June 30, 2020 (85 FR 39189) pursuant to the fourth proviso under the heading “Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program Account” in division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94): *Provided further*, That none of the direct loans or loan guarantee authority made available under this heading shall be available for any project unless the Administrator and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget have certified in advance in writing that the direct loan or loan guarantee, as applicable, and the project comply with the criteria referenced in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of carrying out the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office may request, and the Administrator shall promptly provide, documentation and information relating to a project identified in a Letter of Interest submitted to the Administrator pursuant to a Notice of Funding Availability for applications for credit assistance under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program, including with respect to a project that was initiated or completed before the date of enactment of this Act.

In addition, fees authorized to be collected pursuant to sections 5029 and 5030 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 shall be deposited in this account, to remain available until expended.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, notwithstanding section 5033 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, \$7,640,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 6303(1) and 6305(1), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in carrying out the Agency’s function to implement directly Federal environmental programs required or authorized by law in the absence of an acceptable tribal program, may award cooperative agreements to federally recognized Indian tribes or Intertribal consortia, if authorized by their member tribes, to assist the Administrator in implementing Federal environmental programs for Indian tribes required or authorized by law, except that no such cooperative agreements may be awarded from funds designated for State financial assistance agreements.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate pesticide registration service fees in accordance with section 33 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136w-8), to remain available until expended.

Notwithstanding section 33(d)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136w-8(d)(2)), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may assess fees under section 33 of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136w-8) for fiscal year 2024.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate fees in accordance with section 3024 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6939g) for fiscal year 2024, to remain available until expended.

The Administrator is authorized to transfer up to \$368,000,000 of the funds appropriated for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative under the heading “Environmental Programs and Management” to the head of any Federal department or agency, with the concurrence of such head, to carry out activities that would support the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement programs, projects, or activities; to enter into an interagency agreement with the head of such Federal department or agency to carry out these activities; and to make grants to governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, institutions, and individuals for planning, research, monitoring, outreach, and implementation in furtherance of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The Science and Technology, Environmental Programs and Management, Office of Inspector General, Hazardous Substance Superfund, and Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program Accounts, are available for the construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, provided that the cost does not exceed \$300,000 per project.

For fiscal year 2024, and notwithstanding section 518(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1377(f)), the Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated for any fiscal year under section 319 of the Act to make grants to Indian tribes pursuant to sections 319(h) and 518(e) of that Act.

The Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated under the heading “Environmental Programs and Management” for fiscal year 2024 to provide grants to implement the Southeast New England Watershed Restoration Program.

Notwithstanding the limitations on amounts in section 320(i)(2)(B) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, not less than \$2,500,000 of the funds made available under this title for the National Estuary Program shall be for making competitive awards described in section 320(g)(4).

For fiscal year 2024, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Water may, using funds appropriated under the headings “Environmental Programs and Management” and “Science and Technology”, contract directly with individuals or indirectly with institutions or nonprofit organizations, without regard to 41 U.S.C. 5, for the temporary or intermittent personal services of students or recent graduates, who shall be considered employees for the purposes of chapters 57 and 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for travel and work injuries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, but shall not be considered to be Federal employees for any other purpose: *Provided*, That amounts used for this purpose by the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention and the Office of Water collectively may not exceed \$2,000,000.

The Environmental Protection Agency shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate with copies of any available Depart-

ment of Treasury quarterly certification of trust fund receipts collected from section 13601 of Public Law 117-169 and section 80201 of Public Law 117-58, an annual operating plan for such receipts showing amounts allocated by program area and program project, and quarterly reports for such receipts of obligated balances by program area and program project.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, \$1,000,000: *Provided*, That funds made available by this Act to any agency in the Natural Resources and Environment mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the office.

FOREST SERVICE

FOREST SERVICE OPERATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, \$1,150,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That a portion of the funds made available under this heading shall be for the base salary and expenses of employees in the Chief’s Office, the Work Environment and Performance Office, the Business Operations Deputy Area, and the Chief Financial Officer’s Office to carry out administrative and general management support functions: *Provided further*, That funds provided under this heading shall be available for the costs of facility maintenance, repairs, and leases for buildings and sites where these administrative, general management and other Forest Service support functions take place; the costs of all utility and telecommunication expenses of the Forest Service, as well as business services; and, for information technology, including cybersecurity requirements: *Provided further*, That funds provided under this heading may be used for necessary expenses to carry out administrative and general management support functions of the Forest Service not otherwise provided for and necessary for its operation.

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, \$300,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, \$31,500,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program: *Provided further*, That all authorities for the use of funds, including the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, available to execute the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriation, are also available in the utilization of these funds for Fire Science Research.

STATE, PRIVATE, AND TRIBAL FORESTRY

For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to States, territories, possessions, tribes, and others, and for forest health management, including for invasive plants, and conducting an international program and trade compliance activities as authorized, \$303,306,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, as authorized by law, of which \$19,806,000 shall be for projects specified for Forest Resource Information and Analysis in the table titled “Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection, improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System, and for hazardous fuels management on or adjacent to such lands, \$1,863,557,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, \$31,000,000 shall be deposited in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund for ecological restoration treatments as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 7303(f); *Provided further*, That for the funds provided in the preceding proviso, section 4003(d)(3)(A) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303(d)(3)(A)) shall be applied by substituting “20” for “10” and section 4003(d)(3)(B) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303(d)(3)(B)) shall be applied by substituting “4” for “2”: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, \$39,000,000 shall be for forest products: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, \$175,450,000 shall be for hazardous fuels management activities, of which not to exceed \$30,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the “State, Private, and Tribal Forestry” appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from National Forest System lands: *Provided further*, That \$20,000,000 may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements or to issue grants for hazardous fuels management activities, and for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management activities on Federal land, or on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That funds made available to implement the Community Forest Restoration Act, Public Law 106-393, title VI, shall be available for use on non-Federal lands in accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the “State, Private, and Tribal Forestry” appropriation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 33 of the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1012), the Secretary of Agriculture, in calculating a fee for grazing on a National Grassland, may provide a credit of up to 50 percent of the calculated fee to a Grazing Association or direct permittee for a conservation practice approved by the Secretary in advance of the fiscal year in which the cost of the conservation practice is incurred, and that the amount credited shall remain available to the Grazing Association or the direct permittee, as appropriate, in the fiscal year in which the credit is made and each fiscal year thereafter for use on the project for conservation practices approved by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated to this account shall be available for the base salary and expenses of employees that carry out the functions funded by the “Capital Improvement and Maintenance” account, the “Range Betterment Fund” account, and the “Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses” account.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, \$156,130,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, for construction, capital improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of buildings and other facilities and infrastructure; for construction, reconstruction, and decommissioning of roads that are no longer needed, including unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system; and for maintenance of forest roads and trails by the Forest Service as authorized by 16 U.S.C.

532-538 and 23 U.S.C. 101 and 205: *Provided*, That \$6,000,000 shall be for activities authorized by 16 U.S.C. 538(a): *Provided further*, That \$5,130,000 shall be for projects specified for Construction Projects in the table titled “Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That funds becoming available in fiscal year 2024 under the Act of March 4, 1913 (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS
SPECIAL ACTS

For acquisition of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests, Utah; the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; and the Angeles, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Cleveland National Forests, California; and the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests, Arkansas; as authorized by law, \$664,000, to be derived from forest receipts.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND
EXCHANGES

For acquisition of lands, such sums, to be derived from funds deposited by State, county, or municipal governments, public school districts, or other public school authorities, and for authorized expenditures from funds deposited by non-Federal parties pursuant to Land Sale and Exchange Acts, pursuant to the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a), to remain available through September 30, 2027, (16 U.S.C. 516-617a, 555a; Public Law 96-586; Public Law 76-589, Public Law 76-591; and Public Law 78-310).

RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement, 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year, as fees for grazing domestic livestock on lands in National Forests in the 16 Western States, pursuant to section 401(b)(1) of Public Law 94-579, to remain available through September 30, 2027, of which not to exceed 6 percent shall be available for administrative expenses associated with on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements.

GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST
AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For expenses authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1643(b), \$45,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, to be derived from the fund established pursuant to the above Act.

MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR
SUBSISTENCE USES

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service to manage Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.), \$1,099,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for forest fire suppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency wildland fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection agreement, and for emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, \$2,312,654,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds, including unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations accounts

previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That any unobligated funds appropriated in a previous fiscal year for hazardous fuels management may be transferred to the “National Forest System” account: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by the responsible emergency management agency: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for support to Federal emergency response: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading in this Act and unobligated balances made available under this heading in prior Acts, other than amounts designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, shall be available, in addition to any other funds made available for such purpose, to continue uninterrupted the Federal wildland firefighter base salary increases provided under section 40803(d)(4)(B) of Public Law 117-58: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$1,011,000,000 shall be available for wildfire suppression operations, and is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(F)(ii)(I) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS RESERVE
FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

In addition to the amounts provided under the heading “Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management” for wildfire suppression operations, \$2,300,000,000, to remain available until transferred, is additional new budget authority as specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(F) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided*, That such amounts may be transferred to and merged with amounts made available under the headings “Department of the Interior—Department-Wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management” and “Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management” for wildfire suppression operations in the fiscal year in which such amounts are transferred: *Provided further*, That amounts may be transferred to the “Wildland Fire Management” accounts in the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture only upon the notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under that heading in this and prior appropriations Acts to the agency to which the funds will be transferred will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: *Provided further*, That, in determining whether all wildfire suppression operations funds appropriated under the heading “Wildland Fire Management” in this and prior appropriations Acts to either the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior will be obligated within 30 days pursuant to the preceding proviso, any funds transferred or permitted to be transferred pursuant to any other transfer authority provided by law shall be excluded.

COMMUNICATIONS SITE ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Amounts collected in this fiscal year pursuant to section 8705(f)(2) of the Agriculture

Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-334), shall be deposited in the special account established by section 8705(f)(1) of such Act, shall be available to cover the costs described in subsection (c)(3) of such section of such Act, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be transferred to the “National Forest System” account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FOREST SERVICE
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations to the Forest Service for the current fiscal year shall be available for: (1) purchase of passenger motor vehicles; acquisition of passenger motor vehicles from excess sources, and hire of such vehicles; purchase, lease, operation, maintenance, and acquisition of aircraft to maintain the operable fleet for use in Forest Service wildland fire programs and other Forest Service programs; notwithstanding other provisions of law, existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft; (2) services pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2225, and not to exceed \$100,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; (3) purchase, erection, and alteration of buildings and other public improvements (7 U.S.C. 2250); (4) acquisition of land, waters, and interests therein pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 428a; (5) for expenses pursuant to the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 558a, 558d, and 558a note); (6) the cost of uniforms as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; and (7) for debt collection contracts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c).

Funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act may be transferred between accounts affected by the Forest Service budget restructure outlined in section 435 of division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94): *Provided*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to this paragraph shall not increase or decrease the funds appropriated to any account in this fiscal year by more than ten percent: *Provided further*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions upon the Secretary of Agriculture’s notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all fire suppression funds appropriated under the heading “Wildland Fire Management” will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided*, That all funds used pursuant to this paragraph must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation which must be requested as promptly as possible.

Not more than \$50,000,000 of funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior for wildland fire management, hazardous fuels management, and State fire assistance when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Forest Service may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated to the Forest Service by this Act to or within the National Forest System Account, or reprogram funds to be used for the purposes of hazardous fuels management and urgent rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water: *Provided*, That such transferred funds shall remain available through September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred pursuant to this paragraph shall

be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for assistance to or through the Agency for International Development in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and shall be available to support forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States government, private sector, and international organizations: *Provided*, That the Forest Service, acting for the International Program, may sign direct funding agreements with foreign governments and institutions as well as other domestic agencies (including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation), United States private sector firms, institutions and organizations to provide technical assistance and training programs on forestry and rangeland management: *Provided further*, That to maximize effectiveness of domestic and international research and cooperation, the International Program may utilize all authorities related to forestry, research, and cooperative assistance regardless of program designations.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available to enter into a cooperative agreement with the section 509(a)(3) Supporting Organization, “Forest Service International Foundation” to assist the Foundation in meeting administrative, project, and other expenses, and may provide for the Foundation’s use of Forest Service personnel and facilities.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from National Forest System lands, and for the performance of cadastral surveys to designate the boundaries of such lands.

None of the funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act or any other Act with respect to any fiscal year shall be subject to transfer under the provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257), section 442 of Public Law 106-224 (7 U.S.C. 7772), or section 10417(b) of Public Law 107-171 (7 U.S.C. 8316(b)).

Not more than \$82,000,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture and not more than \$14,500,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for Department Reimbursable Programs, commonly referred to as Greenbook charges: *Provided*, That nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit or limit the use of reimbursable agreements requested by the Forest Service in order to obtain information technology services, including telecommunications and system modifications or enhancements, from the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$5,000,000 shall be available for priority projects within the scope of the approved budget, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps and shall be carried out under the authority of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.).

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, \$4,000 is available to the Chief of the Forest Service for official reception and representation expenses.

Pursuant to sections 405(b) and 410(b) of Public Law 101-593, of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$3,000,000 may be advanced in a lump sum to the National Forest Foundation to aid conservation partnership projects in support of the Forest Service mission, without regard to when the Foundation incurs expenses, for projects on or benefiting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That of the Federal funds made available to the Foundation, no more than \$300,000 shall be available for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That the Foundation shall obtain, by the end of the period of Federal financial assistance, private contributions to match funds made available by the Forest Service on at least a one-for-one basis: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or a non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of Public Law 98-244, up to \$3,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service may be advanced to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a lump sum to aid cost-share conservation projects, without regard to when expenses are incurred, on or benefiting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched on at least a one-for-one basis by the Foundation or its sub-recipients: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Any amounts made available to the Forest Service in this fiscal year, including available collections, may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, to enter into Federal financial assistance grants and cooperative agreements to support forest or grassland collaboratives in the accomplishment of activities benefitting both the public and the National Forest System, Federal lands and adjacent non-Federal lands. Eligible activities are those that will improve or enhance Federal investments, resources, or lands, including for collaborative and collaboration-based activities, including but not limited to facilitation, planning, and implementing projects, technical assistance, administrative functions, operational support, participant costs, and other capacity support needs, as identified by the Forest Service. Eligible recipients are Indian tribal entities (defined at 25 U.S.C. 5304(e)), state government, local governments, private and nonprofit entities, for-profit organizations, and educational institutions. The Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, may enter into such cooperative agreements notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31 when the Secretary determines that the public interest will be benefited and that there exists a mutual interest other than monetary considerations. Transactions subject to Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations shall be publicly advertised and require competition when required by such Title 2. For those transactions not subject to Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the agency may require public advertising and competition when deemed appropriate. The term “forest and grassland collaboratives” means groups of individuals or entities with diverse interests participating in a cooperative process to share knowledge, ideas, and resources about the protection, restoration, or enhancement of natural and other resources on Federal and adjacent non-Federal lands, the improvement or maintenance of public access to Federal lands, or the reduction of risk to such lands caused by natural disasters.

The 19th unnumbered paragraph under the heading “Administrative Provisions, Forest Service” in title III of Public Law 109-54, as amended, shall be further amended by striking “For each fiscal year through 2009” and inserting “For this fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter” and adding at the end the following new sentence: “Congress hereby ratifies and approves payments by the Forest Service made in accordance with this paragraph to agency employees stationed in Puerto Rico after August 2, 2005.”

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for interactions with and providing technical assistance to rural communities and natural resource-based businesses for sustainable rural development purposes.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for payments to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, pursuant to section 14(c)(1) and (2), and section 16(a)(2) of Public Law 99-663.

Any funds appropriated to the Forest Service may be used to meet the non-Federal share requirement in section 502(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(c)(2)).

The Forest Service shall not assess funds for the purpose of performing fire, administrative, and other facilities maintenance and decommissioning.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations, and similar matters unrelated to civil litigation: *Provided*, That future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the sums requested for transfer.

An eligible individual who is employed in any project funded under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and administered by the Forest Service shall be considered to be a Federal employee for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

The Forest Service may employ or contract with an individual who is enrolled in a training program at a longstanding Civilian Conservation Center (as defined in section 147(d) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3197(d))) at regular rates of pay for necessary hours of work on National Forest System lands.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available to pay, from a single account, the base salary and expenses of employees who carry out functions funded by other accounts for Enterprise Program, Geospatial Technology and Applications Center, remnant Natural Resource Manager, Job Corps, and National Technology and Development Program.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

For expenses necessary to carry out the Act of August 5, 1954 (68 Stat. 674), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Indian Health Service, \$56,061,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, except as otherwise provided herein, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on

October 1, 2023; in addition, \$264,702,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, for the Electronic Health Record System and the Indian Healthcare Improvement Fund, of which \$74,138,000 is for the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund and may be used, as needed, to carry out activities typically funded under the Indian Health Facilities account; and, in addition, \$4,684,029,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and remain available through September 30, 2026, except as otherwise provided herein; together with payments received during the fiscal year pursuant to sections 231(b) and 233 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 238(b) and 238b), for services furnished by the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That funds made available to tribes and tribal organizations through contracts, grant agreements, or any other agreements or compacts authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450), shall be deemed to be obligated at the time of the grant or contract award and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That from the amounts that become available on October 1, 2024, \$2,500,000 shall be available for grants or contracts with public or private institutions to provide alcohol or drug treatment services to Indians, including alcohol detoxification services: *Provided further*, That from the amounts that become available on October 1, 2024, \$996,755,000 shall remain available until expended for Purchased/Referred Care: *Provided further*, That of the total amount specified in the preceding proviso for Purchased/Referred Care, \$54,000,000 shall be for the Indian Catastrophic Health Emergency Fund: *Provided further*, That from the amounts that become available on October 1, 2024, up to \$51,000,000 shall remain available until expended for implementation of the loan repayment program under section 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act: *Provided further*, That from the amounts that become available on October 1, 2024, \$58,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for costs related to or resulting from accreditation emergencies, including supplementing activities funded under the heading “Indian Health Facilities”, of which up to \$4,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts otherwise available for Purchased/Referred Care: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Federal Government as authorized by sections 104 and 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a) during the preceding fiscal year for breach of contracts shall be deposited in the Fund authorized by section 108A of that Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a-1) and shall remain available until expended and, notwithstanding section 108A(c) of that Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a-1(c)), funds shall be available to make new awards under the loan repayment and scholarship programs under sections 104 and 108 of that Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available within this account for the Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention Program, for Opioid Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Services, for the Domestic Violence Prevention Program, for the Zero Suicide Initiative, for the housing subsidy authority for civilian employees, for Aftercare Pilot Programs at Youth Regional Treatment Centers, for transformation and modernization costs of the Indian Health Service Electronic Health Record system, for national quality and oversight activities, to improve collections from public and private insurance at Indian Health Service and tribally operated facilities, for an initiative to treat or reduce the transmission of HIV and HCV, for a maternal health initiative, for the Telebehaviorial

Health Center of Excellence, for Alzheimer’s activities, for Village Built Clinics, for a produce prescription pilot, and for accreditation emergencies shall be allocated at the discretion of the Director of the Indian Health Service and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this Act may be used for annual contracts and grants that fall within 2 fiscal years, provided the total obligation is recorded in the year the funds are appropriated: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the authority of title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613) shall remain available until expended for the purpose of achieving compliance with the applicable conditions and requirements of titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act, except for those related to the planning, design, or construction of new facilities: *Provided further*, That funding contained herein for scholarship programs under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613) shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts received by tribes and tribal organizations under title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act shall be reported and accounted for and available to the receiving tribes and tribal organizations until expended: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of Indian Affairs may collect from the Indian Health Service, and from tribes and tribal organizations operating health facilities pursuant to Public Law 93-638, such individually identifiable health information relating to disabled children as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.): *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided that become available on October 1, 2024, may be used for implementation of the Electronic Health Record System or the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act, or any other Act, to the Indian Health Service for the Electronic Health Record system shall be available for obligation or expenditure for the selection or implementation of a new Information Technology infrastructure system, unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are consulted 90 days in advance of such obligation.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for contract support costs associated with Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act agreements with the Indian Health Service for fiscal year 2024, such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account: *Provided further*, That amounts obligated but not expended by a tribe or tribal organization for contract support costs for such agreements for the current fiscal year shall be applied to contract support costs due for such agreements for subsequent fiscal years.

PAYMENTS FOR TRIBAL LEASES

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for leases pursuant to section 105(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(l)) for fiscal year 2024, such sums as may be necessary, which shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account.

INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

For construction, repair, maintenance, demolition, improvement, and equipment of

health and related auxiliary facilities, including quarters for personnel; preparation of plans, specifications, and drawings; acquisition of sites, purchase and erection of modular buildings, and purchases of trailers; and for provision of domestic and community sanitation facilities for Indians, as authorized by section 7 of the Act of August 5, 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2004a), the Indian Self-Determination Act, and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and for expenses necessary to carry out such Acts and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to environmental health and facilities support activities of the Indian Health Service, \$5,364,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2023; in addition, \$306,329,000, to remain available until expended, for Sanitation Facilities Construction and Health Care Facilities Construction; and, in addition, \$506,854,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2024, and remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for the planning, design, construction, renovation, or expansion of health facilities for the benefit of an Indian tribe or tribes may be used to purchase land on which such facilities will be located: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$500,000 may be used for fiscal year 2025 by the Indian Health Service to purchase TRANSAM equipment from the Department of Defense for distribution to the Indian Health Service and tribal facilities: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided that become available on October 1, 2024, may be used for Health Care Facilities Construction or for Sanitation Facilities Construction: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading for fiscal year 2024 for Sanitation Facilities Construction, \$17,023,000 shall be for projects specified for Sanitation Facilities Construction (CDS) in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service may be used for sanitation facilities construction for new homes funded with grants by the housing programs of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Appropriations provided in this Act to the Indian Health Service shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of medical equipment; purchase of reprints; purchase, renovation, and erection of modular buildings and renovation of existing facilities; payments for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services; uniforms, or allowances therefor as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and for expenses of attendance at meetings that relate to the functions or activities of the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, non-Indian patients may be extended health care at all tribally administered or Indian Health Service facilities, subject to charges, and the proceeds along with funds recovered under the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651–2653) shall

be credited to the account of the facility providing the service and shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other law or regulation, funds transferred from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Indian Health Service shall be administered under Public Law 86–121, the Indian Sanitation Facilities Act and Public Law 93–638: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service in this Act, except those used for administrative and program direction purposes, shall not be subject to limitations directed at curtailing Federal travel and transportation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used for any assessments or charges by the Department of Health and Human Services unless such assessments or charges are identified in the budget justification and provided in this Act, or approved by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations through the reprogramming process: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds previously or herein made available to a tribe or tribal organization through a contract, grant, or agreement authorized by title I or title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), may be deobligated and reobligated to a self-determination contract under title I, or a self-governance agreement under title V of such Act and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used to implement the final rule published in the Federal Register on September 16, 1987, by the Department of Health and Human Services, relating to the eligibility for the health care services of the Indian Health Service until the Indian Health Service has submitted a budget request reflecting the increased costs associated with the proposed final rule, and such request has been included in an appropriations Act and enacted into law: *Provided further*, That with respect to functions transferred by the Indian Health Service to tribes or tribal organizations, the Indian Health Service is authorized to provide goods and services to those entities on a reimbursable basis, including payments in advance with subsequent adjustment, and the reimbursements received therefrom, along with the funds received from those entities pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination Act, may be credited to the same or subsequent appropriation account from which the funds were originally derived, with such amounts to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That reimbursements for training, technical assistance, or services provided by the Indian Health Service will contain total costs, including direct, administrative, and overhead costs associated with the provision of goods, services, or technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the Indian Health Service may provide to civilian medical personnel serving in hospitals operated by the Indian Health Service housing allowances equivalent to those that would be provided to members of the Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service serving in similar positions at such hospitals: *Provided further*, That the appropriation structure for the Indian Health Service may not be altered without advance notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For necessary expenses for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in

carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9660(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, \$79,714,000.

AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

For necessary expenses for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in carrying out activities set forth in sections 104(i) and 111(c)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and section 3019 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, \$81,619,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, in lieu of performing a health assessment under section 104(i)(6) of CERCLA, the Administrator of ATSDR may conduct other appropriate health studies, evaluations, or activities, including, without limitation, biomedical testing, clinical evaluations, medical monitoring, and referral to accredited healthcare providers: *Provided further*, That in performing any such health assessment or health study, evaluation, or activity, the Administrator of ATSDR shall not be bound by the deadlines in section 104(i)(6)(A) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for ATSDR to issue in excess of 40 toxicological profiles pursuant to section 104(i) of CERCLA during fiscal year 2024, and existing profiles may be updated as necessary.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For necessary expenses to continue functions assigned to the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970, and Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1977, and not to exceed \$750 for official reception and representation expenses, \$4,629,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 202 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, the Council shall consist of one member, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, serving as chairman and exercising all powers, functions, and duties of the Council.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in carrying out activities pursuant to section 112(r)(6) of the Clean Air Act, including hire of passenger vehicles, uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, and for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376, \$14,400,000: *Provided*, That the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (Board) shall have not more than three career Senior Executive Service positions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the individual appointed to the position of Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall, by virtue of such appointment, also hold the position of Inspector General of the Board: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Inspector General of the Board shall utilize personnel of the Office of Inspector General of EPA in performing the duties of the Inspector General of the Board,

and shall not appoint any individuals to positions within the Board.

OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN
RELOCATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation as authorized by Public Law 93-531, \$5,024,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be derived from unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading: *Provided*, That funds provided in this or any other appropriations Act are to be used to relocate eligible individuals and groups including evictees from District 6, Hopi-partitioned lands residents, those in significantly substandard housing, and all others certified as eligible and not included in the preceding categories: *Provided further*, That none of the funds contained in this or any other Act may be used by the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation to evict any single Navajo or Navajo family who, as of November 30, 1985, was physically domiciled on the lands partitioned to the Hopi Tribe unless a new or replacement home is provided for such household: *Provided further*, That no relocatee will be provided with more than one new or replacement home: *Provided further*, That the Office shall relocate any certified eligible relocatees who have selected and received an approved homesite on the Navajo reservation or selected a replacement residence off the Navajo reservation or on the land acquired pursuant to section 11 of Public Law 93-531 (88 Stat. 1716).

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA
NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

For payment to the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, as authorized by part A of title XV of Public Law 99-498 (20 U.S.C. 4411 et seq.), \$13,482,000, which shall become available on July 1, 2024, and shall remain available until September 30, 2025.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Smithsonian Institution, as authorized by law, including research in the fields of art, science, and history; development, preservation, and documentation of the National Collections; presentation of public exhibits and performances; collection, preparation, dissemination, and exchange of information and publications; conduct of education, training, and museum assistance programs; maintenance, alteration, operation, lease agreements of no more than 30 years, and protection of buildings, facilities, and approaches; not to exceed \$100,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for employees, \$892,855,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed \$28,000,000 for the instrumentation program, collections acquisition, exhibition reinstallation, Smithsonian American Women's History Museum, National Museum of the American Latino, and the repatriation of skeletal remains program shall remain available until expended; and including such funds as may be necessary to support American overseas research centers: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein are available for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations: *Provided further*, That the Smithsonian Institution may expend Federal appropriations designated in this Act for lease or rent payments, as rent payable to the Smithsonian Institution, and such rent payments may be deposited into the general trust

funds of the Institution to be available as trust funds for expenses associated with the purchase of a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, to the extent that federally supported activities will be housed there: *Provided further*, That the use of such amounts in the general trust funds of the Institution for such purpose shall not be construed as Federal debt service for, a Federal guarantee of, a transfer of risk to, or an obligation of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That no appropriated funds may be used directly to service debt which is incurred to finance the costs of acquiring a portion of the building at 600 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, or of planning, designing, and constructing improvements to such building: *Provided further*, That any agreement entered into by the Smithsonian Institution for the sale of its ownership interest, or any portion thereof, in such building so acquired may not take effect until the expiration of a 30 day period which begins on the date on which the Secretary of the Smithsonian submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committees on House Administration and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate a report, as outlined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94; 133 Stat. 2536) on the intended sale.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

For necessary expenses of repair, revitalization, and alteration of facilities owned or occupied by the Smithsonian Institution, by contract or otherwise, as authorized by section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), and for construction, including necessary personnel, \$197,645,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$10,000 shall be for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the upkeep and operations of the National Gallery of Art, the protection and care of the works of art therein, and administrative expenses incident thereto, as authorized by the Act of March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51), as amended by the public resolution of April 13, 1939 (Public Resolution 9, 76th Congress), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; payment in advance when authorized by the treasurer of the Gallery for membership in library, museum, and art associations or societies whose publications or services are available to members only, or to members at a price lower than to the general public; purchase, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for guards, and uniforms, or allowances therefor, for other employees as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901-5902); purchase or rental of devices and services for protecting buildings and contents thereof, and maintenance, alteration, improvement, and repair of buildings, approaches, and grounds; and purchase of services for restoration and repair of works of art for the National Gallery of Art by contracts made, without advertising, with individuals, firms, or organizations at such rates or prices and under such terms and conditions as the Gallery may deem proper, \$174,760,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which not to exceed \$3,875,000 for the special exhibition program shall remain available until expended.

REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF
BUILDINGS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of repair, restoration, and renovation of buildings, grounds

and facilities owned or occupied by the National Gallery of Art, by contract or otherwise, for operating lease agreements of no more than 10 years, that address space needs created by the ongoing renovations in the Master Facilities Plan, as authorized, \$34,480,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$24,574,000 shall be available for design and construction of an off-site art storage facility in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and may be transferred to the Smithsonian Institution for such purposes: *Provided further*, That contracts awarded for environmental systems, protection systems, and exterior repair or renovation of buildings of the National Gallery of Art may be negotiated with selected contractors and awarded on the basis of contractor qualifications as well as price.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for the operation, maintenance, and security of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, including rent of temporary office space in the District of Columbia during renovations of such Center, \$32,293,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

CAPITAL REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for capital repair and restoration of the existing features of the building and site of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, \$12,633,000, to remain available until expended.

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR
SCHOLARS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary in carrying out the provisions of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Act of 1968 (82 Stat. 1356) including hire of passenger vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE
HUMANITIES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, \$207,000,000 shall be available to the National Endowment for the Arts for the support of projects and productions in the arts, including arts education and public outreach activities, through assistance to organizations and individuals pursuant to section 5 of the Act, for program support, and for administering the functions of the Act, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, \$207,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$192,000,000 shall be available for support of activities in the humanities, pursuant to section 7(c) of the Act and for administering the functions of the Act; and \$15,000,000 shall be available to carry out the matching grants program pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Act, including \$13,000,000 for the purposes of section 7(h): *Provided*, That appropriations for carrying out section 10(a)(2) shall be available for obligation only in such amounts as may be equal to the total amounts of gifts, bequests, devises of money, and other property accepted by the chairman or by grantees of the National Endowment for the Humanities under the provisions of sections 11(a)(2)(B) and 11(a)(3)(B) during the current and preceding fiscal years for which

equal amounts have not previously been appropriated.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

None of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used to process any grant or contract documents which do not include the text of 18 U.S.C. 1913: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That funds from nonappropriated sources may be used as necessary for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts may approve grants of up to \$10,000, if in the aggregate the amount of such grants does not exceed 5 percent of the sums appropriated for grantmaking purposes per year: *Provided further*, That such small grant actions are taken pursuant to the terms of an expressed and direct delegation of authority from the National Council on the Arts to the Chairperson.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses of the Commission of Fine Arts under chapter 91 of title 40, United States Code, \$3,661,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to charge fees to cover the full costs of its publications, and such fees shall be credited to this account as an offsetting collection, to remain available until expended without further appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Commission is authorized to accept gifts, including objects, papers, artwork, drawings and artifacts, that pertain to the history and design of the Nation's Capital or the history and activities of the Commission of Fine Arts, for the purpose of artistic display, study, or education: *Provided further*, That one-tenth of one percent of the funds provided under this heading may be used for official reception and representation expenses.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

For necessary expenses as authorized by Public Law 99-190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), \$5,000,000: *Provided*, That the item relating to "National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs" in the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1986, as enacted into law by section 101(d) of Public Law 99-190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), shall be applied in fiscal year 2024 in the second paragraph by inserting ", calendar year 2020 excluded" before the first period: *Provided further*, That in determining an eligible organization's annual income for calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023, funds or grants received by the eligible organization from any supplemental appropriations made available in 2020 and 2021 in connection with the public health emergency declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services on January 31, 2020 (including renewals thereof) shall be counted as part of the eligible organization's annual income.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Public Law 89-665), \$3,585,000.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Capital Planning Commission under chapter 87 of title 40, United States Code, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$8,750,000: *Provided*, That one-quarter of 1 percent of the funds provided under this

heading may be used for official reception and representational expenses associated with hosting international visitors engaged in the planning and physical development of world capitals.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

For expenses of the Holocaust Memorial Museum, as authorized by Public Law 106-292 (36 U.S.C. 2301-2310), \$65,231,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, for the Museum's equipment replacement program; and of which \$4,000,000 for the Museum's repair and rehabilitation program and \$1,264,000 for the Museum's outreach initiatives program shall remain available until expended.

PRESIDIO TRUST

The Presidio Trust is authorized to issue obligations to the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to section 104(d)(3) of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-333), in an amount not to exceed \$90,000,000.

UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to plan and coordinate observances and activities associated with the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, as authorized by Public Law 116-282, the technical amendments to Public Law 114-196, \$15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

TITLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

OBLIGATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 402. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves, or holdbacks, including working capital fund charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval.

MINING APPLICATIONS

SEC. 404. (a) LIMITATION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended to accept or process applications for a patent for any mining or mill site claim located under the general mining laws.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Secretary of the Interior determines that, for the claim concerned: (1) a patent application was filed with the Sec-

retary on or before September 30, 1994; and (2) all requirements established under sections 2325 and 2326 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 29 and 30) for vein or lode claims, sections 2329, 2330, 2331, and 2333 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 35, 36, and 37) for placer claims, and section 2337 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 42) for mill site claims, as the case may be, were fully complied with by the applicant by that date.

(c) REPORT.—On September 30, 2025, the Secretary of the Interior shall file with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on actions taken by the Department under the plan submitted pursuant to section 314(c) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-208).

(d) MINERAL EXAMINATIONS.—In order to process patent applications in a timely and responsible manner, upon the request of a patent applicant, the Secretary of the Interior shall allow the applicant to fund a qualified third-party contractor to be selected by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a mineral examination of the mining claims or mill sites contained in a patent application as set forth in subsection (b). The Bureau of Land Management shall have the sole responsibility to choose and pay the third-party contractor in accordance with the standard procedures employed by the Bureau of Land Management in the retention of third-party contractors.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, PRIOR YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 405. Sections 405 and 406 of division F of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113-235) shall continue in effect in fiscal year 2024.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, FISCAL YEAR 2024 LIMITATION

SEC. 406. Amounts provided by this Act for fiscal year 2024 under the headings "Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Contract Support Costs" and "Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, Contract Support Costs" are the only amounts available for contract support costs arising out of self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements for fiscal year 2024 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, and the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That such amounts provided by this Act are not available for payment of claims for contract support costs for prior years, or for repayments of payments for settlements or judgments awarding contract support costs for prior years.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEC. 407. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered to be in violation of section 6(f)(5)(A) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)(A)) solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of the plan for a unit of the National Forest System. Nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from any other requirement of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.) or any other law: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is not acting expeditiously and in good faith, within the funding available, to revise a plan for a unit of the National Forest System, this section shall be void with respect to such plan and a court of proper jurisdiction may order completion of the plan on an accelerated basis.

PROHIBITION WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS

SEC. 408. No funds provided in this Act may be expended to conduct preleasing, leasing

and related activities under either the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) within the boundaries of a National Monument established pursuant to the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) as such boundary existed on January 20, 2001, except where such activities are allowed under the Presidential proclamation establishing such monument.

LIMITATION ON TAKINGS

SEC. 409. Unless otherwise provided herein, no funds appropriated in this Act for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands may be expended for the filing of declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation without the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds appropriated to implement the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989, or to funds appropriated for Federal assistance to the State of Florida to acquire lands for Everglades restoration purposes.

PROHIBITION ON NO-BID CONTRACTS

SEC. 410. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to executive branch agencies may be used to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 33 of title 41, United States Code, or Chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless—

(1) Federal law specifically authorizes a contract to be entered into without regard for these requirements, including formula grants for States, or federally recognized Indian tribes;

(2) such contract is authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638, 25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) or by any other Federal laws that specifically authorize a contract within an Indian tribe as defined in section 4(e) of that Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(e)); or

(3) such contract was awarded prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

POSTING OF REPORTS

SEC. 411. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

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

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

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

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT GUIDELINES

SEC. 412. Of the funds provided to the National Endowment for the Arts—

(1) The Chairperson shall only award a grant to an individual if such grant is awarded to such individual for a literature fellowship, National Heritage Fellowship, or American Jazz Masters Fellowship.

(2) The Chairperson shall establish procedures to ensure that no funding provided through a grant, except a grant made to a State or local arts agency, or regional group, may be used to make a grant to any other organization or individual to conduct activity independent of the direct grant recipient. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit payments made in exchange for goods and services.

(3) No grant shall be used for seasonal support to a group, unless the application is specific to the contents of the season, including identified programs or projects.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM PRIORITIES

SEC. 413. (a) In providing services or awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 from funds appropriated under this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that serve underserved populations.

(b) In this section:

(1) The term “underserved population” means a population of individuals, including urban minorities, who have historically been outside the purview of arts and humanities programs due to factors such as a high incidence of income below the poverty line or to geographic isolation.

(2) The term “poverty line” means the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))) applicable to a family of the size involved.

(c) In providing services and awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 with funds appropriated by this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that will encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts.

(d) With funds appropriated by this Act to carry out section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965—

(1) the Chairperson shall establish a grant category for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that are of national impact or availability or are able to tour several States;

(2) the Chairperson shall not make grants exceeding 15 percent, in the aggregate, of such funds to any single State, excluding grants made under the authority of paragraph (1);

(3) the Chairperson shall report to the Congress annually and by State, on grants awarded by the Chairperson in each grant category under section 5 of such Act; and

(4) the Chairperson shall encourage the use of grants to improve and support community-based music performance and education.

STATUS OF BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 414. The Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and the Indian Health Service shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds in each program and activity within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

EXTENSION OF GRAZING PERMITS

SEC. 415. The terms and conditions of section 325 of Public Law 108-108 (117 Stat. 1307), regarding grazing permits issued by the Forest Service on any lands not subject to administration under section 402 of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1752), shall remain in effect for fiscal year 2024.

FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 416. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or

establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

HUMANE TRANSFER AND TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

SEC. 417. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, or the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to land administered by the Forest Service (referred to in this section as the “Secretary concerned”), may transfer excess wild horses and burros that have been removed from land administered by the Secretary concerned to other Federal, State, and local government agencies for use as work animals.

(b) The Secretary concerned may make a transfer under subsection (a) immediately on the request of a Federal, State, or local government agency.

(c) An excess wild horse or burro transferred under subsection (a) shall lose status as a wild free-roaming horse or burro (as defined in section 2 of Public Law 92-195 (commonly known as the “Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act”)) (16 U.S.C. 1332)).

(d) A Federal, State, or local government agency receiving an excess wild horse or burro pursuant to subsection (a) shall not—

(1) destroy the horse or burro in a manner that results in the destruction of the horse or burro into a commercial product;

(2) sell or otherwise transfer the horse or burro in a manner that results in the destruction of the horse or burro for processing into a commercial product; or

(3) euthanize the horse or burro, except on the recommendation of a licensed veterinarian in a case of severe injury, illness, or advanced age.

(e) Amounts appropriated by this Act shall not be available for—

(1) the destruction of any healthy, unadopted, and wild horse or burro under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned (including a contractor); or

(2) the sale of a wild horse or burro that results in the destruction of the wild horse or burro for processing into a commercial product.

FOREST SERVICE FACILITY REALIGNMENT AND ENHANCEMENT AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

SEC. 418. Section 503(f) of Public Law 109-54 (16 U.S.C. 580d note) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2024” for “September 30, 2019”.

USE OF AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL

SEC. 419. (a)(1) None of the funds made available by a State water pollution control revolving fund as authorized by section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12) shall be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States.

(2) In this section, the term “iron and steel” products means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection

Agency (in this section referred to as the “Administrator”) finds that—

(1) applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;

(2) iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or

(3) inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

(c) If the Administrator receives a request for a waiver under this section, the Administrator shall make available to the public on an informal basis a copy of the request and information available to the Administrator concerning the request, and shall allow for informal public input on the request for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request. The Administrator shall make the request and accompanying information available by electronic means, including on the official public Internet Web site of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

(e) The Administrator may retain up to 0.25 percent of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds for carrying out the provisions described in subsection (a)(1) for management and oversight of the requirements of this section.

LOCAL COOPERATOR TRAINING AGREEMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF EXCESS EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR WILDFIRES

SEC. 420. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into grants and cooperative agreements with volunteer fire departments, rural fire departments, rangeland fire protection associations, and similar organizations to provide for wildland fire training and equipment, including supplies and communication devices. Notwithstanding section 121(c) of title 40, United States Code, or section 521 of title 40, United States Code, the Secretary is further authorized to transfer title to excess Department of the Interior firefighting equipment no longer needed to carry out the functions of the Department’s wildland fire management program to such organizations.

RECREATION FEES

SEC. 421. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) shall be applied by substituting “October 1, 2025” for “September 30, 2019”.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

SEC. 422. None of the funds made available in this Act, in this and prior fiscal years, may be reprogrammed without the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the reprogramming procedures contained in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

LOCAL CONTRACTORS

SEC. 423. Section 412 of division E of Public Law 112-74 shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2019”.

SHASTA-TRINITY MARINA FEE AUTHORITY AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

SEC. 424. Section 422 of division F of Public Law 110-161 (121 Stat 1844), as amended, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2019”.

INTERPRETIVE ASSOCIATION AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

SEC. 425. Section 426 of division G of Public Law 113-76 (16 U.S.C. 565a-1 note) shall be applied by substituting “September 30, 2024” for “September 30, 2019”.

FOREST BOTANICAL PRODUCTS FEE COLLECTION AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

SEC. 426. Section 339 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (as enacted into law by Public Law 106-113; 16 U.S.C. 528 note), as amended by section 335(6) of Public Law 108-108 and section 432 of Public Law 113-76, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2019”.

CHACO CANYON

SEC. 427. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to accept a nomination for oil and gas leasing under 43 CFR 3120.3 et seq., or to offer for oil and gas leasing, any Federal lands within the withdrawal area identified on the map of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park prepared by the Bureau of Land Management and dated April 2, 2019, prior to the completion of the cultural resources investigation identified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

TRIBAL LEASES

SEC. 428. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of any lease under section 105(1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(1)), the initial lease term shall commence no earlier than the date of receipt of the lease proposal.

(b) The Secretaries of the Interior and Health and Human Services shall, jointly or separately, during fiscal year 2024 consult with tribes and tribal organizations through public solicitation and other means regarding the requirements for leases under section 105(1) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5324(1)) on how to implement a consistent and transparent process for the payment of such leases.

FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND RECOVERY FUND

SEC. 429. The authority provided under the heading “Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund” in title I of Public Law 111-88, as amended by section 117 of division F of Public Law 113-235, shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2024” for “fiscal year 2020” each place it appears.

ALLOCATION OF PROJECTS, NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND AND LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

SEC. 430. (a)(1) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall allocate amounts made available from the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code, and as provided in subsection (e) of such section of such title, to the agencies of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture specified, in the amounts specified, for the stations and unit names specified, and for the projects and activities specified in the table titled “Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year 2024” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(2) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, as appropriate, shall allocate amounts made available for expenditure from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code, to the agencies and accounts specified, in the amounts specified, and for the projects and activities specified in the

table titled “Allocation of Funds: Land and Water Conservation Fund Fiscal Year 2024” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(b) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (c) of this section, neither the President nor his designee may allocate any amounts that are made available for any fiscal year under subsection (c) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code, or subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code, other than in amounts and for projects and activities that are allocated by subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section: *Provided*, That in any fiscal year, the matter preceding this proviso shall not apply to the allocation of amounts for continuing administration of programs allocated funds from the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund or the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which may be allocated only in amounts that are no more than the allocation for such purposes in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section.

(c) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may reallocate amounts from each agency’s “Contingency Fund” line in the table titled “Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year 2024” to any project funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund within the same agency, from any fiscal year, that experienced a funding deficiency due to unforeseen cost overruns, in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) “Contingency Fund” amounts may only be reallocated if there is a risk to project completion resulting from unforeseen cost overruns;

(2) “Contingency Fund” amounts may only be reallocated for cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund; and

(3) The Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture must provide written notification to the Committees on Appropriations 30 days before taking any actions authorized by this subsection if the amount reallocated from the “Contingency Fund” line for a project is projected to be 10 percent or greater than the following, as applicable:

(A) The amount allocated to that project in the table titled “Allocation of Funds: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund Fiscal Year 2024” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act); or

(B) The initial estimate in the most recent report submitted, prior to enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Appropriations pursuant to section 431(e) of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328).

(d)(1) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate project data sheets for the projects in the “Submission of Annual List of Projects to Congress” required by section 200402(h) of title 54, United States Code: *Provided*, That the “Submission of Annual List of Projects to Congress” must include a “Contingency Fund” line for each agency within the allocations defined in subsection (e) of section 200402 of title 54, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in the event amounts allocated by this Act or any prior Act for the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund are no longer needed to complete a specified project, such amounts may

be reallocated in such submission to that agency's "Contingency Fund" line: *Provided further*, That any proposals to change the scope of or terminate a previously approved project must be clearly identified in such submission.

(2)(A) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a list of supplementary allocations for Federal land acquisition and Forest Legacy Projects at the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service that are in addition to the "Submission of Cost Estimates" required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, that are prioritized and detailed by account, program, and project, and that total no less than half the full amount allocated to each account for that land management Agency under the allocations submitted under section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code: *Provided*, That in the event amounts allocated by this Act or any prior Act pursuant to subsection (a) of section 200303 of title 54, United States Code are no longer needed because a project has been completed or can no longer be executed, such amounts must be clearly identified if proposed for reallocation in the annual budget submission.

(B) The Federal land acquisition and Forest Legacy projects in the "Submission of Cost Estimates" required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, and on the list of supplementary allocations required by subparagraph (A) shall be comprised only of projects for which a willing seller has been identified and for which an appraisal or market research has been initiated.

(C) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate project data sheets in the same format and containing the same level of detailed information that is found on such sheets in the Budget Justifications annually submitted by the Department of the Interior with the President's Budget for the projects in the "Submission of Cost Estimates" required by section 200303(c)(1) of title 54, United States Code, and in the same format and containing the same level of detailed information that is found on such sheets submitted to the Committees pursuant to section 427 of division D of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94) for the list of supplementary allocations required by subparagraph (A).

(e) The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section and the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(2) of this section, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds, and, for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of this section, National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund amounts reallocated pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

POLICIES RELATING TO BIOMASS ENERGY

SEC. 431. To support the key role that forests in the United States can play in address-

ing the energy needs of the United States, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall, consistent with their missions, jointly—

(1) ensure that Federal policy relating to forest bioenergy—

(A) is consistent across all Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) recognizes the full benefits of the use of forest biomass for energy, conservation, and responsible forest management; and

(2) establish clear and simple policies for the use of forest biomass as an energy solution, including policies that—

(A) reflect the carbon neutrality of forest bioenergy and recognize biomass as a renewable energy source, provided the use of forest biomass for energy production does not cause conversion of forests to non-forest use;

(B) encourage private investment throughout the forest biomass supply chain, including in—

- (i) working forests;
- (ii) harvesting operations;
- (iii) forest improvement operations;
- (iv) forest bioenergy production;
- (v) wood products manufacturing; or
- (vi) paper manufacturing;
- (C) encourage forest management to improve forest health; and
- (D) recognize State initiatives to produce and use forest biomass.

SMALL REMOTE INCINERATORS

SEC. 432. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement or enforce the regulation issued on March 21, 2011 at 40 CFR part 60 subparts CCCC and DDDD with respect to units in the State of Alaska that are defined as "small, remote incinerator" units in those regulations and, until a subsequent regulation is issued, the Administrator shall implement the law and regulations in effect prior to such date.

TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 433. No timber sale in Alaska's Region 10 shall be advertised if the indicated rate is deficit (defined as the value of the timber is not sufficient to cover all logging and stumpage costs and provide a normal profit and risk allowance under the Forest Service's appraisal process) when appraised using a residual value appraisal. The western red cedar timber from those sales which is surplus to the needs of the domestic processors in Alaska, shall be made available to domestic processors in the contiguous 48 United States at prevailing domestic prices. All additional western red cedar volume not sold to Alaska or contiguous 48 United States domestic processors may be exported to foreign markets at the election of the timber sale holder. All Alaska yellow cedar may be sold at prevailing export prices at the election of the timber sale holder.

TRANSFER AUTHORITY TO FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LAND LEGACY RESTORATION FUND

SEC. 434. Funds made available or allocated in this Act to the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture that are subject to the allocations and limitations in 54 U.S.C. 200402(e) and prohibitions in 54 U.S.C. 200402(f) may be further allocated or reallocated to the Federal Highway Administration for transportation projects of the covered agencies defined in 54 U.S.C. 200401(2).

PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 435. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water

vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production.

GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING RESTRICTIONS

SEC. 436. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to implement any provision in a rule, if that provision requires mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 437. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to regulate the lead content of ammunition, ammunition components, or fishing tackle under the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) or any other law.

FIREFIGHTER PAY CAP

SEC. 438. Section 1701 of division B of the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (5 U.S.C. 5547 note), as amended by Public Law 117-103, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking the last sentence and inserting "Any Services during a given calendar year that generate payments payable in the subsequent calendar year shall be disregarded in applying this subsection"; and

(2) in subsections (a), (b), and (c) by inserting "or 2024" after "or 2023" each place it appears.

TECHNICAL CORRECTION

SEC. 439. In the table entitled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of Public Law 117-328 and in the table under the heading "Disclosure of Earmarks and Congressionally Directed Spending Items" in such explanatory statement, the project relating to "Historic Campbell Chapel Restoration Committee for the Restoration of Historic Campbell Chapel" is deemed to be amended by striking "Historic Preservation Fund—Save America's Treasures Grants" and inserting "Historic Preservation Fund—Historic Preservation Fund Grants".

ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL HEALTH ENTITIES AUTHORIZATION EXTENSION

SEC. 440. Section 424(a) of title IV of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113-76) shall be applied by substituting "October 1, 2024" for "December 24, 2022".

LAVA RIDGE WIND PROJECT

SEC. 441. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended for the purpose of granting, issuing, or renewing a right-of-way under section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1761) for the Lava Ridge Wind Project, unless or until the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management, has analyzed, in consultation with local elected officials and stakeholders, action alternatives designed to reduce impacts to wildlife, cultural resources, transportation, hunting, wetlands and the connected surface and ground waters. The Secretary shall complete such consultations, and seek feedback regarding action alternatives, not later than September 30, 2024, and no funds made available in this Act shall be used for granting, issuing, or renewing a right-of-way under section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1761) for the Lava Ridge Wind Project while such consultations and efforts are ongoing.

(b) Prior to granting, issuing, or renewing a right-of-way under section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of

1976 (43 U.S.C. 1761) for the Lava Ridge Wind Project, the Secretary shall periodically report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of consultations required under subsection (a) and, once such consultations are complete, provide a briefing to the Committees on the action alternatives and the feedback of local elected officials and stakeholders.

LIMITATION

SEC. 442. If requested by the claimant of any mining claim located within the area covered by Public Land Order 7921, the Bureau of Land Management shall prioritize completion of a validity determination for such claim. The Bureau of Land Management shall strive to complete any such validity determination not later than 3 years of receipt of the request.

GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY

SEC. 443. Section 8206 of the Agriculture Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2113a), as amended by section 8624 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-334) and the Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3)(A), by adding before the period “; or”

“(iii) National Park System land; or
“(iv) National Wildlife Refuge Land”;

(2) in subsection (a)(4)(B)(i), by striking “or” after “National Forest System” and inserting “;”;

(3) in subsection (a)(4)(B)(i), by inserting “, National Park Service, or National Wildlife Refuge” after “Bureau of Land Management”;

(4) in subsection (b)(2)(C)(ii), by striking “2023” and inserting “2024”;

(5) in subsection (b)(4) by striking “land or” and inserting “;” and

(6) in subsection (b)(4) by inserting “, National Park System, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service” after “Bureau of Land Management”.

FOREST SERVICE NONRECURRING EXPENSE FUND

SEC. 444. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the “Forest Service Nonrecurring Expenses Fund” (the Fund); *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds, and discretionary no-year funds at least four years old and deemed by the Chief of the Forest Service no longer needed for their intended purpose, appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year from the general fund of the Treasury to the Forest Service by this or any other Act may be transferred into the Fund; *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, and in addition to such other funds as may be available, for information technology; administrative expenses such as, but not limited to, utility and lease payments; facilities infrastructure maintenance, improvements, and construction; and roads infrastructure maintenance, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget; *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may not be obligated without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in conformance with the reprogramming guidelines described in this Act.

WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

SEC. 445. In addition to the authority provided by section 6(g) of the World War I Centennial Commission Act, as authorized by the World War I Centennial Commission Act (Public Law 112-272) and the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291), the World War I Commission may accept money, in-kind personnel serv-

ices, contractual support, or any appropriate support from any executive branch agency for activities of the Commission.

RESCISSION

SEC. 446. Of the unobligated balances from discretionary amounts made available for fiscal year 2020 or prior fiscal years and derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the following are hereby permanently rescinded—

(1) \$89,000,000 from National Park Service grant programs with unobligated carryover balances; and

(2) \$5,000,000 from the Bureau of Land Management;

Provided, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESCISSION

SEC. 447. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available by section 11001 of Public Law 117-2, \$350,000,000 are hereby permanently rescinded.

RESCISSION

SEC. 448. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for fiscal year 2023 or prior fiscal years under the heading “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Services” for costs related to or resulting from accreditation emergencies, \$90,000,000 are hereby rescinded; *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

This division may be cited as the “Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”.

DIVISION F—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$191,295,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$3,770,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary;

(2) \$1,370,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary;

(3) \$32,272,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel;

(4) \$20,064,000 shall be available for the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, of which \$2,000,000 is for the Office for Multimodal Freight Infrastructure and Policy; *Provided*, That the Secretary must obtain reprogramming approval from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations under section 405 of this Act prior to executing the authorities of section 118(g)(2)–(3) of title 49, United States Code;

(5) \$22,724,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs;

(6) \$7,138,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs;

(7) \$43,284,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration;

(8) \$6,244,000 shall be available for the Office of Public Affairs and Public Engagement;

(9) \$2,515,000 shall be available for the Office of the Executive Secretariat;

(10) \$16,506,000 shall be available for the Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response;

(11) \$33,879,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer; and

(12) \$1,529,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Government Affairs;

Provided further, That the Secretary of Transportation (referred to in this title as the “Secretary”) is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary; *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 7 percent by all such transfers; *Provided further*, That notice of any change in funding greater than 7 percent shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations; *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$70,000 shall be for allocation within the Department for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine; *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation up to \$2,500,000 in funds received in user fees.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses related to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, \$49,040,000, of which \$22,500,000 shall remain available until expended; *Provided*, That of such amounts that are available until expended, \$10,000,000 shall be for necessary expenses of the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Infrastructure (ARPA-I) as authorized by section 119 of title 49, United States Code; *Provided further*, That within the funds made available under the preceding proviso, not less than \$8,000,000 shall be available for research on durability, resiliency, and sustainability of bridges and other infrastructure and shall be directed to an accredited university of higher education in the northeast United States that has experience leading a regional university transportation center and a proven record of developing, patenting, deploying, and commercializing innovative composite materials and technologies for bridge and other transportation applications, as well as conducting research and developing prototypes using very large-scale polymer-based additive manufacturing; *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training; *Provided further*, That any reference in law, regulation, judicial proceedings, or elsewhere to the Research and Innovative Technology Administration shall continue to be deemed to be a reference to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology of the Department of Transportation.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out a local and regional project assistance grant program under section 6702 of title 49, United States Code, \$345,000,000, to remain available until expended; *Provided*, That section 6702(f)(2) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading in this Act; *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act, not less than 5 percent shall be awarded to projects in historically disadvantaged communities or areas of persistent poverty as defined under section 6702(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code; *Provided further*, That grants awarded under this heading in this Act for eligible projects for planning, preparation, or design shall not be subject to a minimum grant size; *Provided*

further, That in distributing amounts made available under this heading in this Act, the Secretary shall take such measures so as to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds, an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas, including Tribal areas, and the investment in a variety of transportation modes: *Provided further*, That for amounts made available under this heading in this Act, the Secretary shall give priority to projects that require a contribution of Federal funds in order to complete an overall financing package: *Provided further*, That section 6702(f)(1) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amounts awarded under this heading in this Act, not more than 50 percent shall be allocated for eligible projects located in rural areas and not more than 50 percent shall be allocated for eligible projects located in urbanized areas: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of determining if an award for planning, preparation, or design under this heading in this Act is an urban award, the project location is the location of the project being planned, prepared, or designed: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to 2 percent of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act, and may transfer portions of such amounts to the Administrators of the Federal Aviation Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration and the Maritime Administration to fund the award and oversight of grants and credit assistance made under the program authorized under section 6702 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That for amounts made available under this heading in this Act, the Secretary shall consider and award projects based solely on the selection criteria as identified under section 6702(d)(3) and (d)(4) of title 49, United States Code.

NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND
INNOVATIVE FINANCE BUREAU

For necessary expenses of the National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 116, \$9,558,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may collect and spend fees, as authorized by title 23, United States Code, to cover the costs of services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments and all or a portion of the costs to the Federal Government of servicing such credit instruments: *Provided further*, That such fees are available until expended to pay for such costs: *Provided further*, That such amounts are in addition to other amounts made available for such purposes and are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

RURAL AND TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE
ADVANCEMENT

For necessary expenses to carry out rural and Tribal infrastructure advancement as authorized in section 21205 of Public Law 117-58, \$25,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with philanthropic entities, non-profit organizations, other Federal agencies, State or local governments and their agencies, Indian Tribes, or other technical assistance providers, to provide such technical assistance, planning, and capacity building to State, local, or Tribal governments, United States territories, metropolitan planning organizations, transit agencies, or other political subdivisions of State or local governments.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT
FINANCING PROGRAM

The Secretary is authorized to issue direct loans and loan guarantees pursuant to chapter 224 of title 49, United States Code, and such authority shall exist as long as any such direct loan or loan guarantee is outstanding.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

For necessary expenses for upgrading and enhancing the Department of Transportation's financial systems and re-engineering business processes, \$5,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2025.

CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for cyber security initiatives, including necessary upgrades to network and information technology infrastructure, improvement of identity management and authentication capabilities, securing and protecting data, implementation of Federal cyber security initiatives, and implementation of enhanced security controls on agency computers and mobile devices, \$49,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$18,228,000.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND
DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for conducting transportation planning, research, systems development, development activities, and making grants, \$24,369,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, \$5,436,000 shall be for necessary expenses of the Interagency Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center (IIPIC): *Provided further*, That there may be transferred to this appropriation, to remain available until expended, amounts transferred from other Federal agencies for expenses incurred under this heading for IIPIC activities not related to transportation infrastructure: *Provided further*, That the tools and analysis developed by the IIPIC shall be available to other Federal agencies for the permitting and review of major infrastructure projects not related to transportation only to the extent that other Federal agencies provide funding to the Department in accordance with the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$3,443,000 shall be made available for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for operating costs and capital outlays of the Working Capital Fund, not to exceed \$522,165,000, shall be paid from appropriations made available to the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That such services shall be provided on a competitive basis to entities within the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the limitation in the preceding proviso on operating expenses shall not apply to entities external to the Department of Transportation or for funds provided in Public Law 117-58: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this Act to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without majority approval of the Working Capital Fund Steering Committee and approval of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no assessments may be

levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity, or project funded by this Act unless notice of such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such Committees.

SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS
UTILIZATION AND OUTREACH

For necessary expenses for small and disadvantaged business utilization and outreach activities, \$5,330,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 332 of title 49, United States Code, such amounts may be used for business opportunities related to any mode of transportation: *Provided further*, That appropriations made available under this heading shall be available for any purpose consistent with prior year appropriations that were made available under the heading "Office of the Secretary—Minority Business Resource Center Program".

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

In addition to funds made available from any other source to carry out the essential air service program under sections 41731 through 41742 of title 49, United States Code, \$348,554,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in determining between or among carriers competing to provide service to a community, the Secretary may consider the relative subsidy requirements of the carriers: *Provided further*, That basic essential air service minimum requirements shall not include the 15-passenger capacity requirement under section 41732(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That amounts authorized to be distributed for the essential air service program under section 41742(b) of title 49, United States Code, shall be made available immediately from amounts otherwise provided to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration: *Provided further*, That the Administrator may reimburse such amounts from fees credited to the account established under section 45303 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 41733 of title 49, United States Code, for fiscal year 2024, the requirements established under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 41731(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, and the subsidy cap established by section 332 of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, shall not apply to maintain eligibility under section 41731 of title 49, United States Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available by this Act to the Department of Transportation may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the operating administrations in this Act, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for congressional notification.

SEC. 102. The Secretary shall post on the web site of the Department of Transportation a schedule of all meetings of the Council on Credit and Finance, including the agenda for each meeting, and require the Council on Credit and Finance to record the decisions and actions of each meeting.

SEC. 103. In addition to authority provided by section 327 of title 49, United States Code,

the Department's Working Capital Fund is authorized to provide partial or full payments in advance and accept subsequent reimbursements from all Federal agencies from available funds for transit benefit distribution services that are necessary to carry out the Federal transit pass transportation fringe benefit program under Executive Order No. 13150 and section 3049 of SAFETEA-LU (5 U.S.C. 7905 note): *Provided*, That the Department shall maintain a reasonable operating reserve in the Working Capital Fund, to be expended in advance to provide uninterrupted transit benefits to Government employees: *Provided further*, That such reserve shall not exceed 1 month of benefits payable and may be used only for the purpose of providing for the continuation of transit benefits: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be fully reimbursed by each customer agency from available funds for the actual cost of the transit benefit.

SEC. 104. Receipts collected in the Department's Working Capital Fund, as authorized by section 327 of title 49, United States Code, for unused transit and van pool benefits, in an amount not to exceed 10 percent of fiscal year 2024 collections, shall be available until expended in the Department's Working Capital Fund to provide contractual services in support of section 189 of this Act: *Provided*, That obligations in fiscal year 2024 of such collections shall not exceed \$1,000,000.

SEC. 105. None of the funds in this title may be obligated or expended for retention or senior executive bonuses for an employee of the Department of Transportation without the prior written approval of the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

SEC. 106. In addition to authority provided by section 327 of title 49, United States Code, the Department's Administrative Working Capital Fund is hereby authorized to transfer information technology equipment, software, and systems from departmental sources or other entities and collect and maintain a reserve at rates which will return full cost of transferred assets.

SEC. 107. None of the funds provided in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to provide credit assistance unless not less than 3 days before any application approval to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary provides notification in writing to the following committees: the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations; the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives: *Provided*, That such notification shall include, but not be limited to, the name of the project sponsor; a description of the project; whether credit assistance will be provided as a direct loan, loan guarantee, or line of credit; and the amount of credit assistance.

SEC. 108. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for "Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program" in section 109 of division L of Public Law 117-103, \$8,948,237.30 is hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 109. The Secretary of Transportation may transfer amounts awarded to a federally recognized Tribe under a funding agreement entered into under part 29 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, from the Department of Transportation's Operating Administrations to the Office of Tribal Government Affairs: *Provided*, That any amounts retroceded or reassumed under such part may be transferred back to the appropriate Operating Administration.

SEC. 109A. (a) Amounts made available to the Secretary of Transportation or the De-

partment of Transportation's operating administrations in this Act for the costs of award, administration, or oversight of financial assistance under the programs identified in subsection (c) may be transferred to the account identified in section 801 of division J of Public Law 117-58, to remain available until expended, for the necessary expenses of award, administration, or oversight of any financial assistance programs in the Department of Transportation.

(b) Amounts transferred under the authority in this section are available in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

(c) The program from which funds made available under this Act may be transferred under subsection (a) are—

(1) the local and regional project assistance program under section 6702 of title 49, United States Code; and

(2) the university transportation centers program under section 5505 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 109B. Of the amounts made available under the heading "National Infrastructure Investments", up to \$35,000,000 shall be available—

(1) First, to fully fund the projects at the amounts for which they applied under section 109B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (division L of Public Law 117-328) and were not fully funded; and

(2) Second, to fund highway infrastructure projects for which the initial grant agreement was executed between January 14, 2021 and February 14, 2021 for awards made from the national infrastructure investments program under title I of division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6): *Provided*, That sponsors of projects eligible for funds made available under subsection shall provide sufficient written justification describing, at a minimum, the current project cost estimate, why the project cannot be completed with the obligated grant amount, and any other relevant information, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this subsection shall be allocated to projects eligible to receive funding under this section in order of the date the grant agreements were initially executed: *Provided further*, That the allocation under the previous proviso will be for the amounts necessary to cover increases to eligible project costs since the grant was obligated, based on the information provided: *Provided further*, That section 200.204 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply to amounts made available under this section: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this section shall not be subject to limitations under section 6702(c) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this section shall not be part of the Federal share of total project costs under section 6702(e)(1) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That section 6702(f) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this section: *Provided further*, That the Office of the Secretary of Transportation shall provide the amounts allocated to projects under this section no later than 120 days after the date the sufficient written justifications required under this section have been submitted.

SEC. 109C. For amounts provided for this fiscal year and prior fiscal years, section 24112(c)(2)(B) of Public Law 117-58 shall be applied by substituting "30 percent" for "40 percent".

SEC. 109D. The remaining unobligated balances, as of September 30, 2024, from amounts made available for the "Department of Transportation—Office of the Secretary—National Infrastructure Invest-

ments" in division L of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) are hereby permanently rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated on September 30, 2024, to remain available until September 30, 2027, and shall be available, without additional competition, for completing the funding of awards made pursuant to the fiscal year 2021 national infrastructure investments program, in addition to other funds as may be available for such purposes: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 109E. For amounts provided for fiscal year 2024 under the heading "National Infrastructure Investments" in title VIII of division J of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) to carry out section 6702 of title 49, United States Code, the set aside for historically disadvantaged communities or areas of persistent poverty under subsection (f)(2) of such section shall be applied by substituting "5 percent" for "1 percent" in this fiscal year: *Provided*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Aviation Administration, not otherwise provided for, including operations and research activities related to commercial space transportation, administrative expenses for research and development, establishment of air navigation facilities, the operation (including leasing) and maintenance of aircraft, subsidizing the cost of aeronautical charts and maps sold to the public, the lease or purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, \$12,729,627,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$12,093,150,000 to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading—

(1) not less than \$1,745,532,000 shall be available for aviation safety activities;

(2) \$9,439,068,000 shall be available for air traffic organization activities;

(3) \$42,018,000 shall be available for commercial space transportation activities;

(4) \$948,211,000 shall be available for finance and management activities;

(5) \$67,818,000 shall be available for NextGen and operations planning activities;

(6) \$162,155,000 shall be available for security and hazardous materials safety activities; and

(7) \$324,825,000 shall be available for staff offices:

Provided further, That not to exceed 5 percent of any budget activity, except for aviation safety budget activity, may be transferred to any budget activity under this heading: *Provided further*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any appropriation under this heading by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That any transfer in excess of 5 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set

forth in that section: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the submission of the budget request, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to Congress an annual update to the report submitted to Congress in December 2004 pursuant to section 221 of the Vision 100-Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (49 U.S.C. 40101 note): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be reduced by \$100,000 for each day after 60 days after the submission of the budget request that such report has not been transmitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the submission of the budget request, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a companion report that describes a comprehensive strategy for staffing, hiring, and training flight standards and aircraft certification staff in a format similar to the one utilized for the controller staffing plan, including stated attrition estimates and numerical hiring goals by fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be reduced by \$100,000 for each day after the date that is 60 days after the submission of the budget request that such report has not been submitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That funds may be used to enter into a grant agreement with a nonprofit standard-setting organization to assist in the development of aviation safety standards: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for new applicants for the second career training program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for the Federal Aviation Administration to finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new aviation user fees not specifically authorized by law after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, foreign authorities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred in the provision of agency services, including receipts for the maintenance and operation of air navigation facilities, and for issuance, renewal or modification of certificates, including airman, aircraft, and repair station certificates, or for tests related thereto, or for processing major repair or alteration forms: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, not less than \$205,376,000 shall be used to fund direct operations of the current air traffic control towers in the contract tower program, including the contract tower cost share program, and any airport that is currently qualified or that will qualify for the program during the fiscal year: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act for aeronautical charting and cartography are available for activities conducted by, or coordinated through, the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to eliminate the contract weather observers program at any airport.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT
(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for acquisition, establishment, technical support services, improvement by contract or purchase, and hire of national airspace systems and experimental facilities and equipment, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including initial acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; engineering and service testing, including construction of test facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; construction and furnishing

of quarters and related accommodations for officers and employees of the Federal Aviation Administration stationed at remote localities where such accommodations are not available; and the purchase, lease, or transfer of aircraft from funds made available under this heading, including aircraft for aviation regulation and certification; to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, \$3,191,250,000, of which \$634,739,370 is for personnel and related expenses and shall remain available until September 30, 2025, \$2,496,360,630 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and \$60,150,000 is for terminal facilities and shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the establishment, improvement, and modernization of national airspace systems: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after submission of the budget request, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress an investment plan for the Federal Aviation Administration which includes funding for each budget line item for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, with total funding for each year of the plan constrained to the funding targets for those years as estimated and approved by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That section 405 of this Act shall apply to amounts made available under this heading in title VIII of the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Appropriations Act (division J of Public Law 117-58): *Provided further*, That the amounts in the table entitled "Allocation of Funds for FAA Facilities and Equipment from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act—Fiscal Year 2024" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) shall be the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (7) of such section 405 for amounts referred to in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding paragraphs (5) and (6) of such section 405, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, not to exceed 10 percent of any funding level specified for projects and activities in the table referred to in the preceding proviso may be transferred to any other funding level specified for projects and activities in such table and no transfer of such funding levels may increase or decrease any funding level in such table by more than 10 percent: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading for terminal facilities, \$15,000,000 shall be made available for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT
(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for research, engineering, and development, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including construction of experimental facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant, \$280,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private

sources, which shall be available for expenses incurred for research, engineering, and development: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be used in accordance with the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That not to exceed 10 percent of any funding level specified under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) may be transferred to any other funding level specified under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any funding level by more than 10 percent: *Provided further*, That any transfer in excess of 10 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For liquidation of obligations incurred for grants-in-aid for airport planning and development, and noise compatibility planning and programs as authorized under subchapter I of chapter 471 and subchapter I of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, and under other law authorizing such obligations; for procurement, installation, and commissioning of runway incursion prevention devices and systems at airports of such title; for grants authorized under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code; and for inspection activities and administration of airport safety programs, including those related to airport operating certificates under section 44706 of title 49, United States Code, \$3,350,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the obligations for which are in excess of \$3,350,000,000, in fiscal year 2024, notwithstanding section 47117(g) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for the replacement of baggage conveyor systems, reconfiguration of terminal baggage areas, or other airport improvements that are necessary to install bulk explosive detection systems: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 47109(a) of title 49, United States Code, the Government's share of allowable project costs under paragraph (2) of such section for subgrants or paragraph (3) of such section shall be 95 percent for a project at other than a large or medium hub airport that is a successive phase of a multi-phased construction project for which the project sponsor received a grant in fiscal year 2011 for the construction project: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of amounts limited under this heading, not less than \$152,148,000 shall be available for administration, \$15,000,000 shall be available for the airport cooperative research program, \$41,801,000 shall be available for airport technology research, and \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available and transferred to "Office of the Secretary, Salaries and Expenses" to carry out the small community air service development program: *Provided further*, That in addition to airports eligible under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code, such

program may include the participation of an airport that serves a community or consortium that is not larger than a small hub airport, according to FAA hub classifications effective at the time the Office of the Secretary issues a request for proposals: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may provide grants to any commercial service airport, notwithstanding the requirement for the airport to be located in an air quality nonattainment or maintenance area or to be able to receive emission credits in section 47102(3)(K) and 47102(3)(L) of title 49, United States Code, for work necessary to construct or modify airport facilities to provide low-emission fuel systems, gate electrification, other related air quality improvements, acquisition of airport-owned vehicles or ground support equipment with low-emission technology, provided such vehicles are used exclusively on airport property or to transport passengers and employees between the airport and the airport's consolidated rental facility or an intermodal surface transportation facility adjacent to the airport.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

For an additional amount for "Grants-In-Aid for Airports", to enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants for projects as authorized by subchapter 1 of chapter 471 and subchapter 1 of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, \$532,392,074, to remain available through September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be derived from the general fund, and such funds shall not be subject to apportionment formulas, special apportionment categories, or minimum percentages under chapter 471 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$482,392,074 shall be made available for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds made available under this section shall not be subject to or considered under section 47115(j)(3)(B) of title 49, United States Code;

(2) up to \$50,000,000 shall be made available to the Secretary to distribute as discretionary grants to airports; and

(3) not less than \$3,000,000 shall be made available for two remaining projects under section 190 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254): *Provided*, That, notwithstanding subsection (j)(2) of section 190 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-254), such grants shall be made available for conducting testing activities in support of studying the effectiveness of existing federally funded sound insulation in residential areas located within the 65 DNL noise contour of a large-hub airport that will facilitate future environmental mitigation projects in these areas: *Provided further*, That, with respect to a project funded under the previous proviso, the allowable project cost for such project shall be calculated without consideration of any costs that were previously paid by the Government:

Provided further, That the Secretary may make discretionary grants to primary airports for airport-owned infrastructure required for the on-airport distribution or storage of sustainable aviation fuels that achieve at least a 50 percent reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions, using a methodology determined by the Secretary, including, but not limited to, on-airport construction or expansion of pipelines, rail lines and spurs, loading and off-loading facilities,

blending facilities, and storage tanks: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may make discretionary grants with funds made available under this heading to primary or non-primary airports for the acquisition or construction costs related to airport-owned, revenue-producing aeronautical fuel farms and fueling systems, including mobile systems, that the Secretary determines will promote the use of unleaded or sustainable aviation fuels on a non-exclusive basis: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may make discretionary grants for airport development improvements of primary runways, taxiways, and aprons necessary at a nonhub, small hub, medium hub, or large hub airport to increase operational resilience for the purpose of re-suming commercial service flight operations following flooding, high water, hurricane, storm surge, tidal wave, tsunami, wind driven water, or winter storms: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall not be subject to any limitation on obligations for the Grants-in-Aid for Airports program set forth in any Act: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may retain up to 0.5 percent of the amounts made available under this heading to fund the award and oversight by the Administrator of grants made under this heading.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to compensate in excess of 600 technical staff-years under the federally funded research and development center contract between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development during fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to pursue or adopt guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration without cost building construction, maintenance, utilities and expenses, or space in airport sponsor-owned buildings for services relating to air traffic control, air navigation, or weather reporting: *Provided*, That the prohibition on the use of funds in this section does not apply to negotiations between the agency and airport sponsors to achieve agreement on "below-market" rates for these items or to grant assurances that require airport sponsors to provide land without cost to the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control facilities.

SEC. 112. The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may reimburse amounts made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, from fees credited under section 45303 of title 49, United States Code, and any amount remaining in such account at the close of any fiscal year may be made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, for the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 113. Amounts collected under section 40113(e) of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to the appropriation current at the time of collection, to be merged with and available for the same purposes as such appropriation.

SEC. 114. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for paying premium pay under section 5546(a) of title 5, United States Code, to any Federal Aviation Administration employee unless such employee actually performed work during the time corresponding to such premium pay.

SEC. 115. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended for an employee of the Federal Aviation Admin-

istration to purchase a store gift card or gift certificate through use of a Government-issued credit card.

SEC. 116. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available under this Act or any prior Act may be used to implement or to continue to implement any limitation on the ability of any owner or operator of a private aircraft to obtain, upon a request to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, a blocking of that owner's or operator's aircraft registration number, Mode S transponder code, flight identification, call sign, or similar identifying information from any ground based display to the public that would allow the real-time or near real-time flight tracking of that aircraft's movements, except data made available to a Government agency, for the noncommercial flights of that owner or operator.

SEC. 117. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than nine political and Presidential appointees in the Federal Aviation Administration.

SEC. 118. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to increase fees pursuant to section 44721 of title 49, United States Code, until the Federal Aviation Administration provides to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order No. 13642.

SEC. 119. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to close a regional operations center of the Federal Aviation Administration or reduce its services unless the Administrator notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 90 full business days in advance.

SEC. 119A. None of the funds made available by or limited by this Act may be used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro airport in Teterboro, New Jersey.

SEC. 119B. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to withhold from consideration and approval any new application for participation in the contract tower program, or for re-evaluation of cost-share program participants so long as the Federal Aviation Administration has received an application from the airport, and so long as the Administrator determines such tower is eligible using the factors set forth in Federal Aviation Administration published establishment criteria.

SEC. 119C. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to open, close, redesignate as a lesser office, or reorganize a regional office, the aeronautical center, or the technical center unless the Administrator submits a request for the reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 119D. The Federal Aviation Administration Administrative Services Franchise Fund may be reimbursed after performance or paid in advance from funds available to the Federal Aviation Administration and other Federal agencies for which the Fund performs services.

SEC. 119E. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the FAA may be used to carry out the FAA's obligations under section 44502(e) of title 49, United States Code, unless the eligible air traffic system or equipment to be transferred to the FAA under section 44502(e) of title 49, United States Code, was purchased by the transferor airport—

(1) during the period of time beginning on October 5, 2018 and ending on December 31, 2021; or

(2) on or after January 1, 2022 for transferor airports located in a non-contiguous States.

SEC. 119F. Of the funds provided under the heading “Grants-in-aid for Airports”, up to \$3,500,000 shall be for necessary expenses, including an independent verification regime, to provide reimbursement to airport sponsors that do not provide gateway operations and providers of general aviation ground support services, or other aviation tenants, located at those airports closed during a temporary flight restriction (TFR) for any residence of the President that is designated or identified to be secured by the United States Secret Service, and for direct and incremental financial losses incurred while such airports are closed solely due to the actions of the Federal Government: *Provided*, That no funds shall be obligated or distributed to airport sponsors that do not provide gateway operations and providers of general aviation ground support services until an independent audit is completed: *Provided further*, That losses incurred as a result of violations of law, or through fault or negligence, of such operators and service providers or of third parties (including airports) are not eligible for reimbursements: *Provided further*, That obligation and expenditure of funds are conditional upon full release of the United States Government for all claims for financial losses resulting from such actions.

SEC. 119G. Of the unobligated balances available to the Federal Aviation Administration, the following funds are hereby permanently rescinded:

(1) \$1,590,528.89 from funds made available for “Federal Aviation Administration—Facilities and Equipment”, which were to remain available until expended, by title I of Public Law 104-50; and

(2) \$2,878.02 from funds made available for “Federal Aviation Administration—Facilities and Equipment” by chapter 10, division B, of Public Law 108-324.

SEC. 119H. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act shall be used to facilitate the assignment of individuals from a private-sector organization to the FAA to serve on a temporary basis.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed \$483,551,671 together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Highway Administration, shall be obligated for necessary expenses for administration and operation of the Federal Highway Administration: *Provided*, That in addition, \$3,248,000 shall be transferred to the Appalachian Regional Commission in accordance with section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Funds available for the implementation or execution of authorized Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs shall not exceed total obligations of \$60,095,782,888 for fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That the limitation on obligations under this heading shall only apply to contract authority authorized from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), unless otherwise specified in law.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For the payment of obligations incurred in carrying out authorized Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, \$60,834,782,888 shall be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), to remain available until expended.

HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

There is hereby appropriated to the Secretary \$2,224,676,687: *Provided*, That the funds made available under this heading shall be derived from the general fund, shall be in addition to any funds provided for fiscal year 2024 in this or any other Act for: (1) “Federal-aid Highways” under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code; (2) the Appalachian development highway system as authorized under section 1069(y) of Public Law 102-240; (3) activities eligible under the Tribal transportation program under section 202 of title 23, United States Code; (4) the Northern Border Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 15101 et seq.); or (5) the Denali Commission, and shall not affect the distribution or amount of funds provided in any other Act: *Provided further*, That, except for the funds made available under this heading for the Northern Border Regional Commission and the Denali Commission, section 11101(e) of Public Law 117-58 shall apply to funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That unless otherwise specified, amounts made available under this heading shall be available until September 30, 2027, and shall not be subject to any limitation on obligations for Federal-aid highways or highway safety construction programs set forth in any Act making annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$1,884,176,687 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That, except as otherwise provided under this heading, the funds made available under this paragraph shall be administered as if apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this paragraph that are used for Tribal projects shall be administered as if allocated under chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, except that the set-asides described in subparagraph (C) of section 202(b)(3) of title 23, United States Code, and subsections (a)(6), (c), and (e) of section 202 of such title, and section 1123(h)(1) of MAP-21 (as amended by Public Law 117-58), shall not apply to such funds;

(2) \$100,000,000 shall be for necessary expenses for construction of the Appalachian development highway system, as authorized under section 1069(y) of Public Law 102-240: *Provided*, That for the purposes of funds made available under this paragraph, the term “Appalachian State” means a State that contains 1 or more counties (including any political subdivision located within the area) in the Appalachian region as defined in section 14102(a) of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for construction of the Appalachian development highway system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That, except as provided in the following proviso, funds made available under this heading for construction of the Appalachian development highway system shall be administered as if apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code: *Provided further*, That a project carried out with funds made available under this heading for construction of the Appalachian development highway system shall be carried out in the same manner as a project under section 14501 of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That subject to the following proviso, funds made available

under this heading for construction of the Appalachian development highway system shall be apportioned to Appalachian States according to the percentages derived from the 2012 Appalachian development highway system cost-to-complete estimate, adopted in Appalachian Regional Commission Resolution Number 736, and confirmed as each Appalachian State’s relative share of the estimated remaining need to complete the Appalachian development highway system, adjusted to exclude those corridors that such States have no current plans to complete, as reported in the 2013 Appalachian Development Highway System Completion Report, unless those States have modified and assigned a higher priority for completion of an Appalachian development highway system corridor, as reported in the 2020 Appalachian Development Highway System Future Outlook: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall adjust apportionments made under the preceding proviso so that no Appalachian State shall be apportioned an amount in excess of 30 percent of the amount made available for construction of the Appalachian development highway system under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consult with the Appalachian Regional Commission in making adjustments under the preceding two provisos: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the costs for which an expenditure is made for construction of the Appalachian development highway system under this heading shall be up to 100 percent;

(3) \$150,000,000 shall be for activities eligible under the Tribal transportation program, as described in section 202 of title 23, United States Code: *Provided*, That, except as otherwise provided under this heading, the funds made available under this paragraph shall be administered as if allocated under chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the set-asides described in subparagraph (C) of section 202(b)(3) of title 23, United States Code, and subsections (a)(6), (c), and (e) of section 202 of such title shall not apply to funds made available under this paragraph: *Provided further*, That the set-aside described in section 1123(h)(1) of MAP-21 (as amended by Public Law 117-58), shall not apply to such funds;

(4) \$5,000,000 shall be transferred to the Northern Border Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 15101 et seq.) to make grants, in addition to amounts otherwise made available to the Northern Border Regional Commission for such purpose, to carry out pilot projects that demonstrate the capabilities of wood-based infrastructure projects: *Provided*, That a grant made with funds made available under this paragraph shall be administered in the same manner as a grant made under subtitle V of title 40, United States Code;

(5) \$4,500,000 shall be transferred to the Denali Commission for activities eligible under section 307(e) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998 (42 U.S.C. 3121 note; Public Law 105-277): *Provided*, That funds made available under this paragraph shall not be subject to section 311 of such Act: *Provided further*, That except as otherwise provided under section 307(e) of such Act or this heading, funds made available under this paragraph shall be administered as if directly appropriated to the Denali Commission and subject to applicable provisions of such Act, including the requirement in section 307(e) of such Act that the local community provides a 10 percent non-Federal match in the form of any necessary land or planning and design funds: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the costs for which an expenditure is made with funds transferred under this paragraph shall be up to 90 percent;

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION
MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND
PROGRAMS
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the implementation, execution and administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs pursuant to section 31110 of title 49, United States Code, as amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58), \$346,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sum of which shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for implementation, execution, or administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs authorized under title 49, United States Code, shall not exceed total obligations of \$411,000,000, for “Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs” for fiscal year 2024, of which \$14,073,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026, is for the research and technology program, and of which not less than \$99,098,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026, is for development, modernization, enhancement, and continued operation and maintenance of information technology and information management.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out sections 31102, 31103, 31104, and 31313 of title 49, United States Code, \$516,300,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of motor carrier safety programs shall not exceed total obligations of \$516,300,000 in fiscal year 2024 for “Motor Carrier Safety Grants”: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading—

- (1) \$406,500,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for the motor carrier safety assistance program;
- (2) \$43,500,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for the commercial driver’s license program implementation program;
- (3) \$60,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for the high priority program;
- (4) \$1,300,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for the commercial motor vehicle operators grant program; and
- (5) \$5,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for the commercial motor vehicle enforcement training and support grant program.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR
CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 130. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall send notice of section 385.308 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, violations by certified mail, registered mail, or another manner of delivery, which records the receipt of the notice by the persons responsible for the violations.

SEC. 131. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Transportation by this Act or any other Act may be obligated or expended to implement, administer, or enforce the requirements of section 31137 of title 49, United

States Code, or any regulation issued by the Secretary pursuant to such section, with respect to the use of electronic logging devices by operators of commercial motor vehicles, as defined in section 31132(1) of such title, transporting livestock as defined in section 602 of the Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Act of 1988 (7 U.S.C. 1471) or insects.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION
OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary to discharge the functions of the Secretary, with respect to traffic and highway safety, authorized under chapter 301 and part C of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, \$223,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2025.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of section 403 of title 23, United States Code, including behavioral research on automated driving systems and advanced driver assistance systems and improving consumer responses to safety recalls, section 25024 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58), and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, \$201,200,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2024, are in excess of \$201,200,000: *Provided further*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

- (1) \$194,000,000 shall be for programs authorized under section 403 of title 23, United States Code, including behavioral research on automated driving systems and advanced driver assistance systems and improving consumer responses to safety recalls, and section 25024 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58); and
- (2) \$7,200,000 shall be for the national driver register authorized under chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That within the \$201,200,000 obligation limitation for operations and research, \$57,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for future years: *Provided further*, That amounts for behavioral research on automated driving systems and advanced driver assistance systems and improving consumer responses to safety recalls are in addition to any other funds provided for those purposes for fiscal year 2024 in this Act.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out provisions of sections 402, 404, and 405 of title 23, United States Code, and grant administration expenses under chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, to remain available until expended, \$813,300,800, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account): *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs for which the total obligations in fiscal year 2024 are in excess of \$813,300,800 for programs authorized under sections 402, 404, and 405 of title 23, United States Code, and grant administration expenses under chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code: *Pro-*

vided further, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

- (1) \$378,400,000 shall be for highway safety programs under section 402 of title 23, United States Code;
- (2) \$353,500,000 shall be for national priority safety programs under section 405 of title 23, United States Code;
- (3) \$40,300,000 shall be for the high visibility enforcement program under section 404 of title 23, United States Code; and
- (4) \$41,100,800 shall be for grant administrative expenses under chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used for construction, rehabilitation, or remodeling costs, or for office furnishings and fixtures for State, local or private buildings or structures: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$500,000 of the funds made available for national priority safety programs under section 405 of title 23, United States Code, for impaired driving countermeasures (as described in subsection (d) of that section) shall be available for technical assistance to the States: *Provided further*, That with respect to the “Transfers” provision under section 405(a)(10) of title 23, United States Code, any amounts transferred to increase the amounts made available under section 402 shall include the obligation authority for such amounts: *Provided further*, That the Administrator shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any exercise of the authority granted under the preceding proviso or under section 405(a)(10) of title 23, United States Code, within 5 days.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL
HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 140. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration set in this Act shall not apply to obligations for which obligation authority was made available in previous public laws but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used.

SEC. 141. An additional \$130,000 shall be made available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, out of the amount limited for section 402 of title 23, United States Code, to pay for travel and related expenses for State management reviews and to pay for core competency development training and related expenses for highway safety staff.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION
SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Railroad Administration, not otherwise provided for, \$267,799,000, of which \$25,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for railroad research and development, \$54,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this heading, up to \$3,000,000 shall be available pursuant to section 20108(d) of title 49, United States Code, for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements at the Transportation Technology Center.

FEDERAL-STATE PARTNERSHIP FOR INTERCITY
PASSENGER RAIL

For necessary expenses related to Federal-state partnership for intercity passenger rail grants as authorized by section 24911 of title 49, United States Code, \$75,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may withhold up to 2 percent of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act for the costs of award and project management oversight of grants carried out under title 49, United States Code.

CONSOLIDATED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses related to consolidated rail infrastructure and safety improvements grants, as authorized by section 22907 of title 49, United States Code, \$198,957,997, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act, \$98,957,997 shall be made available for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That requirements under subsections (g) and (l) of section 22907 of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That any remaining funds available after the distribution of the Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending described in this paragraph shall be available to the Secretary to distribute as discretionary grants under this heading: *Provided further*, That for amounts made available under this heading in this Act, eligible projects under section 22907(c)(8) of title 49, United States Code, shall also include railroad systems planning (including the preparation of regional intercity passenger rail plans and state rail plans) and railroad project development activities (including railroad project planning, preliminary engineering, design, environmental analysis, feasibility studies, and the development and analysis of project alternatives): *Provided further*, That section 22905(f) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading in this Act for projects that implement or sustain positive train control systems otherwise eligible under section 22907(c)(1) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act for projects selected for commuter rail passenger transportation may be transferred by the Secretary, after selection, to the appropriate agencies to be administered in accordance with chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That for amounts made available under this heading in this Act, eligible recipients under section 22907(b)(7) of title 49, United States Code, shall include any holding company of a Class II railroad or Class III railroad (as those terms are defined in section 20102 of title 49, United States Code): *Provided further*, That section 22907(e)(1)(A) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That section 22907(e)(1)(A) of title 49, United States Code, shall not apply to amounts made available under this heading in previous fiscal years if such funds are announced in a notice of funding opportunity that includes funds made available under this heading in this Act: *Provided further*, That the preceding proviso shall not apply to funds made available under this heading in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (division J of Public Law 117-58): *Provided further*, That unobligated balances remaining after 6 years from the date of enactment of this Act may be used for any eligible project under section 22907(c) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may withhold up to 2 percent of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act for the costs of award and project management oversight of grants carried out under title 49, United States Code.

NORTHEAST CORRIDOR GRANTS TO THE
NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for activities associated with the Northeast Corridor as authorized by section 22101(a) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), \$1,141,442,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may retain up to one-half of 1 percent of the amounts made available under both this heading in this Act and the “National Network Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation” heading in this Act to fund the costs of project management and oversight of activities authorized by section 22101(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58): *Provided further*, That in addition to the project management oversight funds authorized under section 22101(c) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58), the Secretary may retain up to an additional \$5,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act to fund expenses associated with the Northeast Corridor Commission established under section 24905 of title 49, United States Code.

NATIONAL NETWORK GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL
RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for activities associated with the National Network as authorized by section 22101(b) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (division B of Public Law 117-58), \$1,286,321,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may retain up to an additional \$3,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading in this Act to fund expenses associated with the State-Supported Route Committee established under section 24712 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading in this Act shall be used by Amtrak to give notice under subsection (a) or (c) of section 24706 of title 49, United States Code, with respect to long-distance routes (as defined in section 24102 of title 49, United States Code) on which Amtrak is the sole operator on a host railroad’s line and a positive train control system is not required by law or regulation, or, except in an emergency or during maintenance or construction outages impacting such routes, to otherwise discontinue, reduce the frequency of, suspend, or substantially alter the route of rail service on any portion of such route operated in fiscal year 2018, including implementation of service permitted by section 24305(a)(3)(A) of title 49, United States Code, in lieu of rail service: *Provided further*, That the National Railroad Passenger Corporation may use up to \$66,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act for corridor development activities as authorized by section 22101(h) of division B of Public Law 117-58: *Provided further*, That \$40,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act shall be for design and construction activities to improve the concourse and related infrastructure for the station at the major hub of Amtrak’s National Network.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL
RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 150. The amounts made available to the Secretary or to the Federal Railroad Administration for the costs of award, administration, and project management oversight of financial assistance which are administered by the Federal Railroad Administration, in this and prior Acts, may be trans-

ferred to the Federal Railroad Administration’s “Financial Assistance Oversight and Technical Assistance” account for the necessary expenses to support the award, administration, project management oversight, and technical assistance of financial assistance administered by the Federal Railroad Administration, in the same manner as appropriated for in this and prior Acts: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to amounts that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 151. None of the funds made available to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation may be used to fund any overtime costs in excess of \$35,000 for any individual employee: *Provided*, That the President of Amtrak may waive the cap set in the preceding proviso for specific employees when the President of Amtrak determines such a cap poses a risk to the safety and operational efficiency of the system: *Provided further*, That the President of Amtrak shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, a summary of all overtime payments incurred by Amtrak for 2023 and the three prior calendar years: *Provided further*, That such summary shall include the total number of employees that received waivers and the total overtime payments Amtrak paid to employees receiving waivers for each month for 2023 and for the three prior calendar years.

SEC. 152. None of the funds made available to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation under the headings “Northeast Corridor Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation” and “National Network Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation” may be used to reduce the total number of Amtrak Police Department uniformed officers patrolling on board passenger trains or at stations, facilities or rights-of-way below the staffing level on May 1, 2019.

SEC. 153. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation in contravention of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (29 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.).

SEC. 154. Of the unobligated balances of funds remaining from—

(1) “Northeast Corridor Improvement Program” account totaling \$126,348 appropriated by Public Law 114-113 is hereby permanently rescinded;

(2) “Railroad Safety Grants” account totaling \$81,257.66 appropriated by Public Law 113-235 is hereby permanently rescinded;

(3) “Capital Assistance for High Speed Rail Corridors and Intercity Passenger Rail Service” account totaling \$53,118,096.83 appropriated by Public Law 111-117 is hereby permanently rescinded;

(4) “Next Generation High-Speed Rail” account totaling \$94.94 appropriated by Public Law 108-447 is hereby permanently rescinded; and

(5) “Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation” account totaling \$678.16 appropriated by Public Law 108-447 is hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 155. It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) long-distance passenger rail routes provide much-needed transportation access for 4,700,000 riders in 325 communities in 40 States and are particularly important in rural areas; and

(2) long-distance passenger rail routes and services should be sustained to ensure connectivity throughout the National Network (as defined in section 24102 of title 49, United States Code).

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS
(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the Federal public transportation assistance program in this account, and for payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5314, 5318, 5329(e)(6), 5334, 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, section 20005(b) of Public Law 112-141, and section 3006(b) of Public Law 114-94, \$13,990,000,000, to be derived from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of programs authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5314, 5318, 5329(e)(6), 5334, 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, section 20005(b) of Public Law 112-141, and section 3006(b) of Public Law 114-94, shall not exceed total obligations of \$13,990,000,000 in fiscal year 2024.

TRANSIT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

For an additional amount for ferry boats grants under section 5307(h) of title 49, United States Code, Tribal technical assistance under section 5311(b)(3)(C) of such title, bus testing facilities under section 5318 of such title, accelerating the adoption of zero emission buses under section 5312 of such title, Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending for projects and activities eligible under chapter 53 of such title, and ferry service for rural communities under section 71103 of division G of Public Law 117-58, \$252,386,844, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the sums provided under this heading in this Act—

(1) \$20,000,000 shall be available for ferry boat grants as authorized under section 5307(h) of such title: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this paragraph, no less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for low or zero emission ferries or ferries using electric battery or fuel cell components and the infrastructure to support such ferries;

(2) \$500,000 shall be available for technical assistance and resources to Tribes through the national rural transportation assistance program authorized under section 5311(b)(3)(C) of such title;

(3) \$1,500,000 shall be available for the operation and maintenance of the bus testing facilities selected under section 5318 of such title;

(4) \$206,817,976 shall be available for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That unless otherwise specified, applicable requirements under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, shall apply to amounts made available in this paragraph, except that the Federal share of the costs for a project in this paragraph shall be in an amount equal to 80 percent of the net costs of the project, unless the Secretary approves a higher maximum Federal share of the net costs of the project consistent with administration of similar projects funded under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code;

(5) \$20,000,000 shall be available for ferry service for rural communities under section 71103 of division G of Public Law 117-58: *Provided*, That for amounts made available in this paragraph, notwithstanding section 71103(a)(2)(B), eligible service shall include passenger ferry service that serves at least two rural areas with a single segment over 15

miles between the two rural areas and is not otherwise eligible under section 5307(h) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That entities that provide eligible service pursuant to the preceding proviso may use amounts made available in this paragraph for public transportation capital projects to support any ferry service between two rural areas; and

(6) \$3,568,868 shall be available to support technical assistance, research, demonstration, or deployment activities or projects to accelerate the adoption of zero emission buses in public transit as authorized under section 5312 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act shall be derived from the general fund: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act shall not be subject to any limitation on obligations for transit programs set forth in this or any other Act.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out section 5314 of title 49, United States Code, \$7,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the assistance provided under this heading does not duplicate the activities of section 5311(b) or section 5312 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading are in addition to any other amounts made available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading shall not be subject to any limitation on obligations set forth in this or any other Act.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out fixed guideway capital investment grants under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, and section 3005(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (Public Law 114-94), \$2,205,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading in this Act—

(1) \$2,130,950,000 shall be available for projects authorized under section 5309(d) of title 49, United States Code; and

(2) up to \$52,000,000 shall be available for projects authorized under section 3005(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act:

Provided further, That the Secretary shall continue to administer the capital investment grants program in accordance with the procedural and substantive requirements of section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, and of section 3005(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act: *Provided further*, That projects that receive a grant agreement under the expedited project delivery for capital investment grants pilot program under section 3005(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act shall be deemed eligible for funding provided for projects under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, without further evaluation or rating under such section: *Provided further*, That such funding shall not exceed the Federal share under section 3005(b): *Provided further*, That for funds made available under this heading in division J of Public Law 117-58 the second through sixth provisos shall be treated as inapplicable for fiscal year 2024: *Provided further*, That amounts repurposed pursuant to the preceding proviso that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2024 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN
AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

For grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority as authorized under section 601 of division B of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-432), \$150,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall approve grants for capital and preventive maintenance expenditures for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority only after receiving and reviewing a request for each specific project: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has placed the highest priority on those investments that will improve the safety of the system before approving such grants.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL
TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 160. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the Federal Transit Administration shall not apply to any authority under 49 U.S.C. 5338, previously made available for obligation, or to any other authority previously made available for obligation.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated or limited by this Act under the heading “Capital Investment Grants” of the Federal Transit Administration for projects specified in this Act not obligated by September 30, 2027, and other recoveries, shall be directed to projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

SEC. 162. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds appropriated before October 1, 2023, under any section of chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that remain available for expenditure, may be transferred to and administered under the most recent appropriation heading for any such section.

SEC. 163. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to adjust apportionments or withhold funds from apportionments pursuant to section 9503(e)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9503(e)(4)).

SEC. 164. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to impede or hinder project advancement or approval for any project seeking a Federal contribution from the capital investment grants program of greater than 40 percent of project costs as authorized under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 165. Of the unobligated balances made available before October 1, 2013 for “Transit Research” in Treasury Account 69-X-1137, \$977,955 is hereby permanently rescinded.

GREAT LAKES ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the Corporation's budget for the current fiscal year.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE
(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses to conduct the operations, maintenance, and capital infrastructure activities on portions of the St. Lawrence Seaway owned, operated, and

United States Code, and deposited in the Liquefied Natural Gas Siting Account for compliance reviews of liquefied natural gas facilities; and of which \$7,000,000 shall be derived from fees collected under section 60302 of title 49, United States Code, and deposited in the Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Account for the purpose of carrying out section 60141 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided*, That not less than \$1,058,000 of the amounts made available under this heading shall be for the one-call state grant program: *Provided further*, That any amounts made available under this heading in this Act or in prior Acts for research contracts, grants, cooperative agreements or research other transactions agreements (OTAs) shall require written notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before such research contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or research OTAs are announced by the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall transmit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations the report on pipeline safety testing enhancement as required pursuant to section 105 of the Protecting our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety Act of 2020 (division R of Public Law 116-260): *Provided further*, That the Secretary may obligate amounts made available under this heading to engineer, erect, alter, and repair buildings or make any other public improvements for research facilities at the Transportation Technology Center after the Secretary submits an updated research plan and the report in the preceding proviso to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and after such plan and report in the preceding proviso are approved by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)
(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

For expenses necessary to carry out the Emergency Preparedness Grants program, not more than \$46,825,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, from amounts made available by section 5116(h) and subsections (b) and (c) of section 5128 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 5116(h)(4) of title 49, United States Code, not more than 4 percent of the amounts made available from this account shall be available to pay the administrative costs of carrying out sections 5116, 5107(e), and 5108(g)(2) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c) of section 5128 of title 49, United States Code, and the limitation on obligations provided under this heading, prior year recoveries recognized in the current year shall be available to develop and deliver hazardous materials emergency response training for emergency responders, including response activities for the transportation of crude oil, ethanol, flammable liquids, and other hazardous commodities by rail, consistent with National Fire Protection Association standards, and to make such training available through an electronic format: *Provided further*, That the prior year recoveries made available under this heading shall also be available to carry out sections 5116(a)(1)(C), 5116(h), 5116(i), 5116(j), and 5107(e) of title 49, United States Code.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$116,452,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary au-

thority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the Department of Transportation.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 180. (a) During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department of Transportation shall be available for maintenance and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of liability insurance for motor vehicles operating in foreign countries on official department business; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department and its operating administrations shall be available for the purchase, maintenance, operation, and deployment of unmanned aircraft systems that advance the missions of the Department of Transportation or an operating administration of the Department of Transportation.

(c) Any unmanned aircraft system purchased, procured, or contracted for by the Department prior to the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed authorized by Congress as if this provision was in effect when the system was purchased, procured, or contracted for.

SEC. 181. Appropriations contained in this Act for the Department of Transportation shall be available for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

SEC. 182. (a) No recipient of amounts made available by this Act shall disseminate personal information (as defined in section 2725(3) of title 18, United States Code) obtained by a State department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record as defined in section 2725(1) of title 18, United States Code, except as provided in section 2721 of title 18, United States Code, for a use permitted under section 2721 of title 18, United States Code.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall not withhold amounts made available by this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

SEC. 183. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 125 political and Presidential appointees in the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 184. Funds received by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Railroad Administration from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training may be credited respectively to the Federal Highway Administration's "Federal-Aid Highways" account and to the Federal Railroad Administration's "Safety and Operations" account, except for State rail safety inspectors participating in training pursuant to section 20105 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 185. None of the funds made available by this Act or in title VIII of division J of Public Law 117-58 to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a loan, loan guarantee, line of credit, letter of intent, federally funded cooperative agreement, full funding grant agreement, or discretionary grant unless the Secretary of

Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project competitively selected to receive any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, loan commitment, loan guarantee commitment, line of credit commitment, federally funded cooperative agreement, or full funding grant agreement is announced by the Department or its operating administrations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with a comprehensive list of all such loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, letters of intent, federally funded cooperative agreements, full funding grant agreements, and discretionary grants prior to the notification required under the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That the Secretary gives concurrent notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for any "quick release" of funds from the emergency relief program: *Provided further*, That no notification shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

SEC. 186. Rebates, refunds, incentive payments, minor fees, and other funds received by the Department of Transportation from travel management centers, charge card programs, the subleasing of building space, and miscellaneous sources are to be credited to appropriations of the Department of Transportation and allocated to organizational units of the Department of Transportation using fair and equitable criteria and such funds shall be available until expended.

SEC. 187. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any funds provided by or limited by this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, transmission of such reprogramming notice shall be provided solely to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and such reprogramming action shall be approved or denied solely by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation may provide notice to other congressional committees of the action of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on such reprogramming but not sooner than 30 days after the date on which the reprogramming action has been approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 188. Funds appropriated by this Act to the operating administrations may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for the costs related to assessments or reimbursable agreements only when such amounts are for the costs of goods and services that are purchased to provide a direct benefit to the applicable operating administration or administrations.

SEC. 189. The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to carry out a program that establishes uniform standards for developing and supporting agency transit pass and transit benefits authorized under section 7905 of title 5, United States Code, including distribution of transit benefits by various paper and electronic media.

SEC. 190. The Department of Transportation may use funds provided by this Act, or any other Act, to assist a contract under title 49 or 23 of the United States Code utilizing geographic, economic, or any other hiring preference not otherwise authorized by law, or to amend a rule, regulation, policy or other measure that forbids a recipient of a Federal Highway Administration or Federal Transit Administration grant from imposing such hiring preference on a contract or construction project with which the Department of Transportation is assisting, only if the grant recipient certifies the following:

(1) that except with respect to apprentices or trainees, a pool of readily available but

unemployed individuals possessing the knowledge, skill, and ability to perform the work that the contract requires resides in the jurisdiction;

(2) that the grant recipient will include appropriate provisions in its bid document ensuring that the contractor does not displace any of its existing employees in order to satisfy such hiring preference; and

(3) that any increase in the cost of labor, training, or delays resulting from the use of such hiring preference does not delay or displace any transportation project in the applicable statewide transportation improvement program or transportation improvement program.

SEC. 191. The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate with the Secretary of Homeland Security to ensure that best practices for Industrial Control Systems Procurement are up-to-date and shall ensure that systems procured with funds provided under this title were procured using such practices.

SEC. 192. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the American Security Drone Act of 2023 (subtitle B of title XVIII of division A of Public Law 118-31).

This title may be cited as the “Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2024”.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Executive Offices, which shall be comprised of the offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, \$19,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$25,000 of the amount made available under this heading shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (referred to in this title as “the Secretary”) for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Administrative Support Offices, \$686,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$91,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer;

(2) \$129,700,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel, of which not less than \$21,700,000 shall be for the Departmental Enforcement Center;

(3) \$239,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Administration;

(4) \$52,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer;

(5) \$32,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer;

(6) \$68,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Field Policy and Management;

(7) \$4,700,000 shall be available for the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity; and

(8) \$70,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer:

Provided further, That funds made available under this heading may be used for necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department, not otherwise provided for, including purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code: *Provided further*, That

notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that directly support program activities funded in this title.

PROGRAM OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Program Offices, \$1,097,164,130, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$286,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Public and Indian Housing;

(2) \$168,514,130 shall be available for the Office of Community Planning and Development;

(3) \$487,550,000 shall be available for the Office of Housing;

(4) \$41,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Policy Development and Research;

(5) \$102,900,000 shall be available for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity; and

(6) \$11,200,000 shall be available for the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the working capital fund for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (referred to in this paragraph as the “Fund”), pursuant, in part, to section 7(f) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(f)), amounts transferred, including reimbursements pursuant to section 7(f), to the Fund under this heading shall be available only for Federal shared services used by offices and agencies of the Department, and for any such portion of any office or agency’s printing, records management, space renovation, furniture, or supply services the Secretary has determined shall be provided through the Fund, and the operational expenses of the Fund: *Provided*, That amounts within the Fund shall not be available to provide services not specifically authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That upon a determination by the Secretary that any other service (or portion thereof) authorized under this heading shall be provided through the Fund, amounts made available in this title for salaries and expenses under the headings “Executive Offices”, “Administrative Support Offices”, “Program Offices”, and “Government National Mortgage Association”, for such services shall be transferred to the Fund, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of its plans for executing such transfers at least 15 days in advance of such transfers.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (in this title “the Act”), not otherwise provided for, \$28,386,831,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be available on October 1, 2023 (in addition to the \$4,000,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that shall be available on October 1, 2023), of which \$6,000,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and \$4,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be available on October 1, 2024: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$28,490,955,000 shall be available for renewals of expiring section 8 tenant-based annual contributions contracts (including re-

newals of enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act) and including renewal of other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts provided under this paragraph and any carryover, the Secretary for the calendar year 2024 funding cycle shall provide renewal funding for each public housing agency based on validated voucher management system (VMS) leasing and cost data for the prior calendar year and by applying an inflation factor as established by the Secretary, by notice published in the Federal Register, and by making any necessary adjustments for the costs associated with the first-time renewal of vouchers under this paragraph including tenant protection and Choice Neighborhoods vouchers: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this paragraph may be used to fund a total number of unit months under lease which exceeds a public housing agency’s authorized level of units under contract, except for public housing agencies participating in the Moving to Work (MTW) demonstration, which are instead governed in accordance with the requirements of the MTW demonstration program or their MTW agreements, if any: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the extent necessary to stay within the amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph), prorate each public housing agency’s allocation otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the following provisos, the entire amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph) shall be obligated to the public housing agencies based on the allocation and pro rata method described above, and the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies of their annual budget by the latter of 60 days after enactment of this Act or March 1, 2024: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may extend the notification period only after the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified at least 10 business days in advance of the extension: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded in accordance with the requirements of the MTW demonstration program or their MTW agreements, if any, and shall be subject to the same pro rata adjustments under the preceding provisos: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may offset public housing agencies’ calendar year 2024 allocations based on the excess amounts of public housing agencies’ net restricted assets accounts, including HUD-held programmatic reserves (in accordance with VMS data in calendar year 2023 that is verifiable and complete), as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall also be subject to the offset, as determined by the Secretary, excluding amounts subject to the single fund budget authority provisions of their MTW agreements, from the agencies’ calendar year 2024 MTW funding allocation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use any offset referred to in the preceding two provisos throughout the calendar year to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as the result of insufficient funding, as determined by the Secretary, and to avoid or reduce the proration of renewal funding allocations: *Provided further*, That up to \$200,000,000 shall be available only:

(A) for adjustments in the allocations for public housing agencies, after application for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal

costs of vouchers resulting from unforeseen circumstances or from portability under section 8(r) of the Act;

(B) for vouchers that were not in use during the previous 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the Act, or an adjustment for a funding obligation not yet expended in the previous calendar year for a MTW-eligible activity to develop affordable housing for an agency added to the MTW demonstration under the expansion authority provided in section 239 of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (division L of Public Law 114-113);

(C) for adjustments for costs associated with HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers;

(D) for public housing agencies that despite taking reasonable cost savings measures, as determined by the Secretary, would otherwise be required to terminate rental assistance for families as a result of insufficient funding;

(E) for adjustments in the allocations for public housing agencies that—

(i) are leasing a lower-than-average percentage of their authorized vouchers,

(ii) have low amounts of budget authority in their net restricted assets accounts and HUD-held programmatic reserves, relative to other agencies, and

(iii) are not participating in the Moving to Work demonstration, to enable such agencies to lease more vouchers;

(F) for withheld payments in accordance with section 8(o)(8)(A)(ii) of the Act for months in the previous calendar year that were subsequently paid by the public housing agency after the agency's actual costs were validated; and

(G) for public housing agencies that have experienced increased costs or loss of units in an area for which the President declared a disaster under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.):

Provided further, That the Secretary shall allocate amounts under the preceding proviso based on need, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) \$337,000,000 shall be available for section 8 rental assistance for relocation and replacement of housing units that are demolished or disposed of pursuant to section 18 of the Act, conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8, relocation of witnesses (including victims of violent crimes) in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency, enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act, Choice Neighborhood vouchers, mandatory and voluntary conversions, and tenant protection assistance including replacement and relocation assistance or for project-based assistance to prevent the displacement of unassisted elderly tenants currently residing in section 202 properties financed between 1959 and 1974 that are refinanced pursuant to Public Law 106-569, as amended, or under the authority as provided under this Act: *Provided*, That when a public housing development is submitted for demolition or disposition under section 18 of the Act, the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance when the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance from amounts made available under this paragraph for units assisted under a project-based subsidy contract funded under the "Project-Based Rental Assistance" heading under this title where the owner has received a Notice of Default and the units pose

an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this paragraph, no less than \$5,000,000 may be available to provide tenant protection assistance, not otherwise provided under this paragraph, to residents residing in low vacancy areas and who may have to pay rents greater than 30 percent of household income, as the result of: (A) the maturity of a HUD-insured, HUD-held or section 202 loan that requires the permission of the Secretary prior to loan prepayment; (B) the expiration of a rental assistance contract for which the tenants are not eligible for enhanced voucher or tenant protection assistance under existing law; or (C) the expiration of affordability restrictions accompanying a mortgage or preservation program administered by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such tenant protection assistance made available under the preceding proviso may be provided under the authority of section 8(t) or section 8(o)(13) of the Act: *Provided further*, That any tenant protection voucher made available from amounts under this paragraph shall not be reissued by any public housing agency, except the replacement vouchers as defined by the Secretary by notice, when the initial family that received any such voucher no longer receives such voucher, and the authority for any public housing agency to issue any such voucher shall cease to exist: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may only provide replacement vouchers for units that were occupied within the previous 24 months that cease to be available as assisted housing, subject only to the availability of funds;

(3) \$2,770,935,000 shall be available for administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program, of which up to \$30,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary to allocate to public housing agencies that need additional funds to administer their section 8 programs, including fees associated with section 8 tenant protection rental assistance, the administration of disaster related vouchers, HUD-VASH vouchers, and other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That no less than \$2,740,935,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be allocated to public housing agencies for the calendar year 2024 funding cycle based on section 8(q) of the Act (and related appropriation Act provisions) as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-276): *Provided further*, That if the amounts made available under this paragraph are insufficient to pay the amounts determined under the preceding proviso, the Secretary may decrease the amounts allocated to agencies by a uniform percentage applicable to all agencies receiving funding under this paragraph or may, to the extent necessary to provide full payment of amounts determined under the preceding proviso, utilize unobligated balances, including recaptures and carry-over, remaining from funds appropriated under this heading from prior fiscal years, excluding special purpose vouchers, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That all public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded in accordance with the requirements of the MTW demonstration program or their MTW agreements, if any, and shall be subject to the same uniform percentage decrease as under the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this paragraph shall be only for activities related to the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under section 8, including related development activities;

(4) \$742,941,000 shall be available for the renewal of tenant-based assistance contracts under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), including necessary administrative expenses: *Provided*, That administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the special purpose vouchers in this paragraph shall be funded under the same terms and be subject to the same pro rata reduction as the percent decrease for administrative and other expenses to public housing agencies under paragraph (3) of this heading: *Provided further*, That up to \$10,000,000 shall be available only—

(A) for adjustments in the allocation for public housing agencies, after applications for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in Mainstream renewal costs resulting from unforeseen circumstances; and

(B) for public housing agencies that despite taking reasonable cost savings measures, as determined by the Secretary, would otherwise be required to terminate the rental assistance for Mainstream families as a result of insufficient funding:

Provided further, That the Secretary shall allocate amounts under the preceding proviso based on need, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That upon turnover, section 811 special purpose vouchers funded under this heading in this or prior Acts, or under any other heading in prior Acts, shall be provided to non-elderly persons with disabilities;

(5) of the amounts provided under paragraph (1), up to \$7,500,000 shall be available for rental assistance and associated administrative fees for Tribal HUD-VASH to serve Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas: *Provided*, That such amount shall be made available for renewal grants to recipients that received assistance under prior Acts under the Tribal HUD-VASH program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall be authorized to specify criteria for renewal grants, including data on the utilization of assistance reported by grant recipients: *Provided further*, That such assistance shall be administered in accordance with program requirements under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 and modeled after the HUD-VASH program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall be authorized to waive, or specify alternative requirements for any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, non-discrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such assistance: *Provided further*, That grant recipients shall report to the Secretary on utilization of such rental assistance and other program data, as prescribed by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reallocate, as determined by the Secretary, amounts returned or recaptured from awards under the Tribal HUD-VASH program under prior Acts to existing recipients under the Tribal HUD-VASH program;

(6) \$15,000,000 shall be available for incremental rental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make

such funding available, notwithstanding section 203 (competition provision) of this title, to public housing agencies that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers or other entities as designated by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, based on geographical need for such assistance as identified by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, public housing agency administrative performance, and other factors as specified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for (in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs), any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance: *Provided further*, That assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for homeless veterans upon turn-over: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to \$10,000,000 may be for additional fees established by and allocated pursuant to a method determined by the Secretary for administrative and other expenses (including those eligible activities defined by notice to facilitate leasing, such as security deposit assistance and costs related to the retention and support of participating owners) of public housing agencies in administering HUD-VASH vouchers;

(7) \$30,000,000 shall be available for the family unification program as authorized under section 8(x) of the Act: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this paragraph are provided as follows:

(A) \$5,000,000 shall be available for new incremental voucher assistance, which shall continue to remain available for family unification upon turnover; and

(B) \$25,000,000 shall be available for new incremental voucher assistance to assist eligible youth as defined by such section 8(x)(2)(B) of the Act, which shall continue to remain available for such eligible youth upon turnover: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be available on a noncompetitive basis to public housing agencies that partner with public child welfare agencies to identify such eligible youth, that request such assistance to timely assist such eligible youth, and that meet any other criteria as specified by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall review utilization of such assistance and assistance originating from appropriations made available for youth under this heading in any prior Act that the Secretary made available on a noncompetitive basis, at an interval to be determined by the Secretary, and unutilized voucher assistance that is no longer needed based on such review shall be recaptured by the Secretary and reallocated pursuant to the preceding proviso:

Provided further, That any public housing agency administering new incremental voucher assistance originating from appropriations made available for the family unification program under this heading in this or any prior Act that the Secretary made available on a competitive basis that determines it no longer has an identified need for such assistance upon turnover shall notify the Secretary, and the Secretary shall recapture such assistance from the agency and reallocate it to any other public housing agen-

cy or agencies based on need for voucher assistance in connection with such specified program or eligible youth, as applicable; and

(8) the Secretary shall separately track all special purpose vouchers funded under this heading.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND (INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading “Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing” and the heading “Project-Based Rental Assistance”, for fiscal year 2024 and prior years may be used for renewal of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided*, That any obligated balances of contract authority from fiscal year 1974 and prior fiscal years that have been terminated shall be rescinded: *Provided further*, That amounts heretofore recaptured, or recaptured during the current fiscal year, from section 8 project-based contracts from source years fiscal year 1975 through fiscal year 1987 are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended, for the purposes set forth under this heading, in addition to amounts otherwise available.

PUBLIC HOUSING FUND

For 2024 payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)) (the “Act”), and to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9(d) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d)), \$8,810,784,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$5,475,784,000 shall be available for the Secretary to allocate pursuant to the Operating Fund formula at part 990 of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations, for 2024 payments;

(2) \$25,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to allocate pursuant to a need-based application process notwithstanding section 203 of this title and not subject to such Operating Fund formula to public housing agencies that experience, or are at risk of, financial shortfalls, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided*, That after all such shortfall needs are met, the Secretary may distribute any remaining funds to all public housing agencies on a pro-rata basis pursuant to such Operating Fund formula;

(3) \$3,200,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to allocate pursuant to the Capital Fund formula at section 905.400 of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations: *Provided*, That for funds provided under this paragraph, the limitation in section 9(g)(1) of the Act shall be 25 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the limitation in the preceding proviso to allow public housing agencies to fund activities authorized under section 9(e)(1)(C) of the Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies requesting waivers under the preceding proviso if the request is approved or denied within 14 days of submitting the request: *Provided further*, That from the funds made available under this paragraph, the Secretary shall provide bonus awards in fiscal year 2024 to public housing agencies that are designated high performers: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify public housing agencies of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act;

(4) \$30,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to make grants, notwithstanding section 203 of this title, to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs, including safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity, as well as needs resulting from unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies and natural disasters excluding Presidentially declared emergencies and natural disasters under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) occurring in fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, not less than \$10,000,000 shall be for safety and security measures: *Provided further*, That in addition to the amount in the preceding proviso for such safety and security measures, any amounts that remain available, after all applications received on or before September 30, 2025, for emergency capital needs have been processed, shall be allocated to public housing agencies for such safety and security measures;

(5) \$65,000,000 shall be available for competitive grants to public housing agencies to evaluate and reduce residential health hazards in public housing, including lead-based paint (by carrying out the activities of risk assessments, abatement, and interim controls, as those terms are defined in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851b)), carbon monoxide, mold, radon, and fire safety: *Provided*, That not less than \$25,000,000 of the amounts provided under this paragraph shall be awarded for evaluating and reducing lead-based paint hazards, except that if such amount is undersubscribed any remaining amounts may be awarded to qualified applicants for other purposes under this paragraph: *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grant under this paragraph shall be considered funds for projects or activities under title I of the Act for purposes of section 26 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437x) and shall be subject to the regulations implementing such section; and

(6) \$15,000,000 shall be available to support the costs of administrative and judicial receiverships and for competitive grants to PHAs in receivership, designated troubled or substandard, or otherwise at risk, as determined by the Secretary, for costs associated with public housing asset improvement, in addition to other amounts for that purpose provided under any heading under this title: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, during fiscal year 2024, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not delegate to any Department official other than the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing any authority under paragraph (2) of section 9(j) of the Act regarding the extension of the time periods under such section: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such section 9(j), the term “obligate” means, with respect to amounts, that the amounts are subject to a binding agreement that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future.

ASSISTED HOUSING INSPECTIONS AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

For the Department’s inspection and assessment programs, including travel, training, and program support contracts, \$50,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated under the heading “Public Housing Fund” to support ongoing public housing financial and physical assessment activities shall be available for the purposes authorized under this heading in addition to the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

For competitive grants under the choice neighborhoods initiative (subject to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) (the “Act”)) unless otherwise specified under this heading), for transformation, rehabilitation, and replacement housing needs of both public and HUD-assisted housing and to transform neighborhoods of poverty into functioning, sustainable, mixed-income neighborhoods with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs, \$75,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That grant funds may be used for resident and community services, community development, and affordable housing needs in the community, and for conversion of vacant or foreclosed properties to affordable housing: *Provided further*, That the use of amounts made available under this heading shall not be deemed to be for public housing, notwithstanding section 3(b)(1) of the Act: *Provided further*, That grantees shall commit to an additional period of affordability determined by the Secretary of not fewer than 20 years: *Provided further*, That grantees shall provide a match in State, local, other Federal, or private funds: *Provided further*, That grantees may include local governments, Tribal entities, public housing agencies, and nonprofit organizations: *Provided further*, That for-profit developers may apply jointly with a public entity: *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grantee shall be treated as a public housing agency under section 26 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437x), and grants made with amounts available under this heading shall be subject to the regulations issued by the Secretary to implement such section: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, not less than \$37,500,000 shall be awarded to public housing agencies: *Provided further*, That such grantees shall create partnerships with other local organizations, including assisted housing owners, service agencies, and resident organizations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consult with the Secretaries of Education, Labor, Transportation, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and Commerce, the Attorney General, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate and leverage other appropriate Federal resources: *Provided further*, That not more than \$10,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading may be provided as grants to undertake comprehensive local planning with input from residents and the community: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be obligated for main street housing grants under section 24(n) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437v(n)): *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures, remaining from amounts made available under the heading “Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing (HOPE VI)” in fiscal year 2011 and prior fiscal years may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall make grant awards not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act in such amounts that the Secretary determines: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 24(o) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437v(o)), the Secretary may, until September 30, 2024, obligate any available unobligated balances made available under this heading in this or any prior Act.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

For activities and assistance related to self-sufficiency programs, to remain available until September 30, 2027, \$195,500,000:

Provided, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$140,500,000 shall be available for the family self-sufficiency program to support family self-sufficiency coordinators under section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437u), to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under sections 8 and 9 of such Act with public and private resources, and enable eligible families to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency;

(2) \$40,000,000 shall be available for the resident opportunity and self-sufficiency program to provide for supportive services, service coordinators, and congregate services as authorized by section 34 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437z-6) and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.): *Provided*, That amounts made available under this paragraph may be used to renew resident opportunity and self-sufficiency program grants to allow the public housing agency, or a new owner, to continue to serve (or restart service to) residents of a project with assistance converted from public housing to project-based rental assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) or assistance under section 8(o)(13) of such Act under the heading “Rental Assistance Demonstration” in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-55), as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437f note); and

(3) \$15,000,000 shall be available for a jobs-plus initiative, modeled after the jobs-plus demonstration: *Provided*, That funding provided under this paragraph shall be available for competitive grants to partnerships between public housing authorities, local workforce investment boards established under section 107 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (29 U.S.C. 3122), and other agencies and organizations that provide support to help public housing residents obtain employment and increase earnings: *Provided further*, That applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide services to residents, partner with workforce investment boards, and leverage service dollars: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may allow public housing agencies to request exemptions from rent and income limitation requirements under sections 3 and 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a, 1437d), as necessary to implement the jobs-plus program, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may approve upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective implementation of the jobs-plus initiative as a voluntary program for residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register any waivers or alternative requirements pursuant to the preceding proviso no later than 10 days before the effective date of such notice.

NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS

For activities and assistance authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (in this heading “NAHASDA”) (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) with respect to Indian tribes, and related training and technical assistance, \$1,344,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$1,111,000,000 shall be available for the Native American housing block grants program, as authorized under title I of NAHASDA: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding

NAHASDA, to determine the amount of the allocation under title I of such Act for each Indian tribe, the Secretary shall apply the formula under section 302 of such Act with the need component based on single-race census data and with the need component based on multi-race census data, and the amount of the allocation for each Indian tribe shall be the greater of the two resulting allocation amounts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify grantees of their formula allocation not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) \$150,000,000 shall be available for competitive grants under the Native American housing block grants program, as authorized under title I of NAHASDA: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall obligate such amount for competitive grants to eligible recipients authorized under NAHASDA that apply for funds: *Provided further*, That in awarding amounts made available in this paragraph, the Secretary shall consider need and administrative capacity, and shall give priority to projects that will spur construction and rehabilitation of housing: *Provided further*, That any amounts transferred for the necessary costs of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of such additional amounts in prior Acts may also be used for the necessary costs of administering and overseeing such additional amount;

(3) \$1,000,000 shall be available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a): *Provided further*, That amounts made available in this and prior Acts for the cost of such guaranteed notes and other obligations that are unobligated, including recaptures and carryover, may be available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025;

(4) \$75,000,000 shall be available for grants to Indian tribes for carrying out the Indian community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, of which, notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 203 of this Act), not more than \$5,000,000 may be used for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety: *Provided*, That not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with amounts made available in this paragraph shall be expended for planning and management development and administration; and

(5) \$7,000,000, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purpose, shall be available for providing training and technical assistance to Indian tribes, Indian housing authorities, and tribally designated housing entities, to support the inspection of Indian housing units, for contract expertise, and for training and technical assistance related to amounts made available under this heading and other headings in this Act for the needs of Native American families and Indian country: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available in this paragraph, not less than \$2,000,000 shall be for a national organization as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4212): *Provided further*, That amounts made available in this paragraph may be used, contracted, or competed as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977), the amounts made available in this paragraph may be used by the Secretary to enter into cooperative

agreements with public and private organizations, agencies, institutions, and other technical assistance providers to support the administration of negotiated rulemaking under section 106 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4116), the administration of the allocation formula under section 302 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4152), and the administration of performance tracking and reporting under section 407 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4167).

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-13a), \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a): *Provided further*, That amounts made available in this and prior Acts for the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-13a), that are unobligated, including recaptures and carryover, may be available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$1,800,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian housing block grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221 et seq.), \$22,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 812(b) of such Act, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands may not invest grant amounts made available under this heading in investment securities and other obligations: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this and prior fiscal years may be used to provide rental assistance to eligible Native Hawaiian families both on and off the Hawaiian Home Lands, notwithstanding any other provision of law: *Provided further*, That up to \$1,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading may be for training and technical assistance related to amounts made available under this heading and other headings in this Act for the needs of Native Hawaiians and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE
FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee loans, as authorized by section 184A of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-13b), any part of which is to be guaranteed, shall not exceed \$28,000,000 in total loan principal, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That the Secretary may enter into commitments to guarantee loans used for refinancing.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH
AIDS

For carrying out the housing opportunities for persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), \$505,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall renew or replace all expiring contracts for permanent supportive housing that initially were funded under section 854(c)(5) of such Act from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2010 and prior fiscal years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for new contracts under such section: *Provided further*, That the process for submitting amendments and approving replacement contracts shall be established by

the Secretary in a notice: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

For assistance to States and units of general local government, and other entities, for economic and community development activities, and other purposes, \$6,720,054,336, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$3,300,000,000 shall be available for carrying out the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) (in this heading “the Act”): *Provided*, That not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with funds made available under this paragraph shall be expended for planning and management development and administration: *Provided further*, That a metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives funds under this paragraph may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such entity in exchange for any other funds, credits, or non-Federal considerations, but shall use such funds for activities eligible under title I of the Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 105(e)(1) of the Act, no funds made available under this paragraph may be provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project under section 105(a)(17) unless such project has been evaluated and selected in accordance with guidelines required under subsection (e)(2) of section 105;

(2) \$100,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary to award grants on a competitive basis to State and local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and multi-jurisdictional entities for additional activities under title I of the Act for the identification and removal of barriers to affordable housing production and preservation: *Provided*, That eligible uses of such grants include activities to further develop, evaluate, and implement housing policy plans, improve housing strategies, and facilitate affordable housing production and preservation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall prioritize applicants that are able to (A) demonstrate progress and a commitment to overcoming local barriers to facilitate the increase in affordable housing production and preservation, primarily by having enacted improved laws and regulations that the Secretary reasonably expects to preserve or produce new housing units; and (B) demonstrate an acute need for housing affordable to households with incomes below 100 percent of the area median income: *Provided further*, That grantees shall report to the Secretary regularly on their activities and outcomes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall analyze observable housing production, preservation, and cost trends in the participating jurisdictions or geographic areas: *Provided further*, That funds allocated for such grants shall not adversely affect the amount of any formula assistance received by a jurisdiction under paragraph (1) of this heading: *Provided further*, That in administering such amounts the Secretary may waive or specify alternative requirements for any provision of such title I except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, the environment, and requirements that activities benefit persons of low- and moderate-income, upon a finding that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary to expedite or facilitate the use of such amounts;

(3) \$30,000,000 shall be available for activities authorized under section 8071 of the

SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115-271): *Provided*, That funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall not adversely affect the amount of any formula assistance received by a State under paragraph (1) of this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall allocate the funds for such activities based on the notice establishing the funding formula published in 84 FR 16027 (April 17, 2019) except that the formula shall use age-adjusted rates of drug overdose deaths for 2021 based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

(4) \$3,290,054,336 shall be available for grants for the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) for the purposes, and in amounts, specified for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the table entitled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That eligible expenses of such grants in this and prior Acts may include administrative, planning, operations and maintenance, and other costs: *Provided further*, That such grants for the EDI shall be available for reimbursement of otherwise eligible expenses incurred on or after the date of enactment of this Act and prior to the date of grant execution: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts made available under this paragraph for grants for the EDI shall be used for reimbursement of expenses incurred prior to the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That grants for the EDI authorized under this heading in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) shall also be available hereafter for reimbursement of otherwise eligible expenses (including those eligible expenses identified in the first proviso of this paragraph) incurred on or after the date of enactment of such Act and prior to the date of grant execution, and shall hereafter not be subject to the second proviso under such heading in such Act:

Provided further, That for amounts made available under paragraphs (1) and (3), the Secretary shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES
PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a), during fiscal year 2024, commitments to guarantee loans under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308), any part of which is guaranteed, shall not exceed a total principal amount of \$400,000,000, notwithstanding any aggregate limitation on outstanding obligations guaranteed in subsection (k) of such section 108: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall collect fees from borrowers, notwithstanding subsection (m) of such section 108, to result in a credit subsidy cost of zero for guaranteeing such loans, and any such fees shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such commitment authority funded by fees may be used to guarantee, or make commitments to guarantee, notes or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State in accordance with the requirements of such section 108: *Provided further*, That any State receiving such a guarantee or commitment under the preceding proviso shall distribute all funds subject to such guarantee to the units of general local government in non-entitlement areas that received the commitment.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

For the HOME investment partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12721 et seq.), \$1,250,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 231(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12771(b)), all unobligated balances remaining from amounts recaptured pursuant to such section that remain available until expended shall be combined with amounts made available under this heading and allocated in accordance with the formula under section 217(b)(1)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12747(b)(1)(A)): *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocations within 60 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That section 218(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12748(g)) shall not apply with respect to the right of a jurisdiction to draw funds from its HOME Investment Trust Fund that otherwise expired or would expire in any calendar year from 2018 through 2026 under that section: *Provided further*, That section 231(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12771(b)) shall not apply to any uninvested funds that otherwise were deducted or would be deducted from the line of credit in the participating jurisdiction's HOME Investment Trust Fund in any calendar year from 2018 through 2026 under that section.

PRESERVATION AND REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE FOR COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT

For competitive grants to preserve and revitalize manufactured housing and eligible manufactured housing communities (including pre-1976 mobile homes) under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), \$10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That recipients of grants provided with amounts made available under this heading shall be States, units of general local government, resident-owned manufactured housing communities, co-operatives, nonprofit entities including consortia of nonprofit entities, community development financial institutions, Indian Tribes (as such term is defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (25 U.S.C. 4103)), or other entities approved by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall reserve an amount for Indian Tribes within such competition: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may approve entities for selection that partner with one or several residents of such eligible communities or that propose to implement a grant program that would assist residents of such eligible communities: *Provided further*, That eligible uses of such grants may include infrastructure, planning, resident and community services (including relocation assistance and eviction prevention), resiliency activities, and providing other assistance to residents or owners of manufactured homes, which may include providing assistance for manufactured housing land and site acquisition: *Provided further*, That, except as determined by the Secretary, participation in this program shall not encumber the future transfer of title or use of property by the residents, owners, or communities: *Provided further*, That when selecting recipients, the Secretary shall prioritize applications that primarily benefit low- or moderately low-income residents and preserve long-term housing affordability for residents of manufactured housing or a manufactured housing community: *Provided further*, That eligible manufactured housing communities may include those that are—

(1) owned by the residents of the manufactured housing community through a resi-

dent-controlled entity, as defined by the Secretary; or

(2) determined by the Secretary to be subject to binding agreements that will preserve the community and maintain affordability on a long-term basis:

Provided further, That resiliency activities means the reconstruction, repair, or replacement of manufactured housing and manufactured housing communities to protect the health and safety of manufactured housing residents and to address weatherization and energy efficiency needs, except that for pre-1976 mobile homes, funds made available under this heading may be used only for replacement: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive or specify alternative requirements for any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with the use of amounts made available under this heading (except for requirements related to fair housing, non-discrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding that such waiver or alternative requirement is necessary to facilitate the use of such amounts.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

For the self-help and assisted homeownership opportunity program, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 12805 note), and for related activities and assistance, \$60,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$12,000,000 shall be available for the self-help homeownership opportunity program as authorized under such section 11;

(2) \$42,000,000 shall be available for the second, third, and fourth capacity building entities specified in section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note), of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be for rural capacity building activities: *Provided*, That for purposes of awarding grants from amounts made available in this paragraph, the Secretary may enter into multiyear agreements, as appropriate, subject to the availability of annual appropriations; and

(3) \$6,000,000 shall be available for capacity building by national rural housing organizations having experience assessing national rural conditions and providing financing, training, technical assistance, information, and research to local nonprofit organizations, local governments, and Indian Tribes serving high need rural communities.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For assistance under title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360 et seq.), and for related activities and assistance, \$4,051,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That of the sums appropriated under this heading—

(1) \$290,000,000 shall be available for the emergency solutions grants program authorized under subtitle B of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.): *Provided*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation from amounts allocated (which may represent initial or final amounts allocated) for the emergency solutions grant program not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act;

(2) \$3,544,000,000 shall be available for the continuum of care program authorized under subtitle C of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.) and the rural housing stability assistance programs authorized under subtitle D of such title IV (42 U.S.C. 11408): *Provided*, That the Secretary shall prioritize funding under the continuum of care program to continuums of care that have demonstrated a capacity to reallocate funding from lower performing projects to higher performing

projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may make reasonable adjustments to renewal amounts to enable renewal projects to operate at substantially the same levels, including cost-of-living adjustments for supportive services from the prior grant: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide incentives to create projects that coordinate with housing providers and healthcare organizations to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing services: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may establish by notice an alternative maximum amount for administrative costs related to the requirements described in sections 402(f)(1) and 402(f)(2) of subtitle A of such title IV of no more than 5 percent or \$50,000, whichever is greater, notwithstanding the 3 percent limitation in section 423(a)(10) of such subtitle C: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available for the continuum of care program under this paragraph, \$52,000,000 shall be for grants for new rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing coordinated entry, and for eligible activities that the Secretary determines to be critical in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, except that the Secretary may make additional grants for such projects and purposes from amounts made available for such continuum of care program: *Provided further*, That amounts made available for the continuum of care program under this paragraph and any remaining unobligated balances under this heading in prior Acts may be used to competitively or non-competitively renew or replace grants for youth homeless demonstration projects under the continuum of care program, notwithstanding any conflict with the requirements of the continuum of care program;

(3) \$10,000,000 shall be available for the national homeless data analysis project: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the provisions of the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreements Act of 1977 (31 U.S.C. 6301-6308), the amounts made available under this paragraph and any remaining unobligated balances under this heading for such purposes in prior Acts may be used by the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements with such entities as may be determined by the Secretary, including public and private organizations, agencies, and institutions;

(4) \$107,000,000 shall be available to implement projects to demonstrate how a comprehensive approach to serving homeless youth, age 24 and under, in up to 25 communities with a priority for communities with substantial rural populations in up to eight locations, can dramatically reduce youth homelessness: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, not less than \$25,000,000 shall be for youth homelessness system improvement grants to support communities, including but not limited to the communities assisted under the matter preceding this proviso, in establishing and implementing a response system for youth homelessness, or for improving their existing system: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this paragraph, up to \$10,000,000 shall be to provide technical assistance to communities, including but not limited to the communities assisted in the preceding proviso and the matter preceding such proviso, on improving system responses to youth homelessness, and collection, analysis, use, and reporting of data and performance measures under the comprehensive approaches to serve homeless youth, in addition to and in coordination with other technical assistance funds provided under this title: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use up to 10 percent of

the amount made available under the preceding proviso to build the capacity of current technical assistance providers or to train new technical assistance providers with verifiable prior experience with systems and programs for youth experiencing homelessness; and

(5) \$100,000,000 shall be available for one-time awards under the continuum of care program for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of new permanent supportive housing, of which not more than 20 percent of such awards may be used for other continuum of care eligible activities associated with such projects and not more than 10 percent of such awards may be used for project administration: *Provided*, That these amounts shall be awarded on a competitive basis, based on need and other factors to be determined by the Secretary, including incentives to establish projects that coordinate with housing providers, healthcare organizations and social service providers: *Provided further*, That not less than \$35,000,000 shall be awarded to applicants for projects within States with populations less than 2,500,000, except that if such amount is undersubscribed any remaining amounts may be awarded to qualified applicants for projects in any State: *Provided further*, That the grants for ongoing costs associated with such projects shall be eligible for renewal under the continuum of care program subject to the same terms and conditions as other renewal applicants:

Provided further, That youth aged 24 and under seeking assistance under this heading shall not be required to provide third party documentation to establish their eligibility under subsection (a) or (b) of section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302) to receive services: *Provided further*, That unaccompanied youth aged 24 and under or families headed by youth aged 24 and under who are living in unsafe situations may be served by youth-serving providers funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That persons eligible under section 103(a)(5) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act may be served by any project funded under this heading to provide both transitional housing and rapid rehousing: *Provided further*, That for all matching funds requirements applicable to funds made available under this heading for this fiscal year and prior fiscal years, a grantee may use (or could have used) as a source of match funds other funds administered by the Secretary and other Federal agencies unless there is (or was) a specific statutory prohibition on any such use of any such funds: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to provide funding for new projects, except for projects created through reallocation, unless the Secretary determines that the continuum of care has demonstrated that projects are evaluated and ranked based on the degree to which they improve the continuum of care's system performance: *Provided further*, That any unobligated amounts remaining from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2012 and prior years for project-based rental assistance for rehabilitation projects with 10-year grant terms may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading in fiscal year 2019 or prior years, except for rental assistance amounts that were recaptured and made available until expended, shall be available for the current purposes authorized under this heading in addition to the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of project-based subsidy contracts under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) ("the Act"), not otherwise provided for, \$15,610,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2023 (in addition to the \$400,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that became available October 1, 2023), of which \$2,000,000,000 is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, and \$400,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2024: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for expiring or terminating section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for amendments to section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11401), for renewal of section 8 contracts for units in projects that are subject to approved plans of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, and for administrative and other expenses associated with project-based activities and assistance funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total amounts provided under this heading, not to exceed \$468,000,000 shall be available for performance-based contract administrators for section 8 project-based assistance, for carrying out 42 U.S.C. 1437(f): *Provided further*, That the Secretary may also use such amounts in the preceding proviso for performance-based contract administrators for the administration of: interest reduction payments pursuant to section 236(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(a)); rent supplement payments pursuant to section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s); section 236(f)(2) rental assistance payments (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(f)(2)); project rental assistance contracts for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); project rental assistance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-372; 73 Stat. 667); and loans under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86-372; 73 Stat. 667): *Provided further*, That amounts recaptured under this heading, the heading "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing", or the heading "Housing Certificate Fund", may be used for renewals of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts or for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Secretary, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 8 project-based housing assistance payments contract that authorizes the Department or a housing finance agency to require that surplus project funds be deposited in an interest-bearing residual receipts account and that are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until expended:

Provided further, That amounts deposited pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be available in addition to the amount otherwise provided by this heading for uses authorized under this heading.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

For capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q), for project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 5-year term, for senior preservation rental assistance contracts, including renewals, as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000 (12 U.S.C. 1701q note), and for supportive services associated with the housing, \$913,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, up to \$112,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants for residents of assisted housing projects: *Provided further*, That any funding for existing service coordinators under the preceding proviso shall be provided within 120 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 202 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration: *Provided further*, That upon request of the Secretary, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 202 project rental assistance contract, and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be available, in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading, for the purposes authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading shall be available for the current purposes authorized under this heading in addition to the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

For capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of such Act, for project assistance contracts pursuant to subsection (h) of section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as added by section 205(a) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (Public Law 95-557: 92 Stat. 2090), including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 5-year term, for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies and other appropriate entities as authorized under section 811(b)(3) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, and for supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811(b)(1) of such Act, \$208,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That, upon the request of the Secretary, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject

to a section 811 project rental assistance contract, and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be available in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading for the purposes authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading shall be used for the current purposes authorized under this heading in addition to the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

For contracts, grants, and other assistance excluding loans, as authorized under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, \$57,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, including up to \$4,500,000 for administrative contract services: *Provided*, That funds shall be used for providing counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners, both current and prospective, with respect to property maintenance, financial management or literacy, and such other matters as may be appropriate to assist them in improving their housing conditions, meeting their financial needs, and fulfilling the responsibilities of tenancy or homeownership; for program administration; and for housing counselor training: *Provided further*, That for purposes of awarding grants from amounts provided under this heading, the Secretary may enter into multiyear agreements, as appropriate, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses as authorized by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.), up to \$14,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$14,000,000 shall be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund (established under section 620(e) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5419(e)): *Provided*, That not to exceed the total amount appropriated under this heading shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund pursuant to section 620 of such Act: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced as such collections are received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation from the general fund estimated at zero, and fees pursuant to such section 620 shall be modified as necessary to ensure such a final fiscal year 2024 appropriation: *Provided further*, That for the dispute resolution and installation programs, the Secretary may assess and collect fees from any program participant: *Provided further*, That such collections shall be deposited into the Trust Fund, and the Secretary, as provided herein, may use such collections, as well as fees collected under section 620 of such Act, for necessary expenses of such Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of section 620 of such Act, the Secretary may carry out responsibilities of the Secretary under such Act through the use of approved service providers that are paid directly by the recipients of their services.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee single family loans insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund shall not exceed \$400,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2024, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That the foregoing amount in the preceding proviso shall be for loans to non-profit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund: *Provided further*, That for administrative contract expenses of the Federal Housing Administration, \$150,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$200,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2024, an additional \$1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$30,000,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the limitation in the first sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-20(g)), during fiscal year 2024 the Secretary may insure and enter into new commitments to insure mortgages under section 255 of the National Housing Act only to the extent that the net credit subsidy cost for such insurance does not exceed zero.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee loans insured under the General and Special Risk Insurance Funds, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-3 and 1735c), shall not exceed \$35,000,000,000 in total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2024, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(1), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed \$1,000,000, which shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed \$550,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That \$54,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for necessary salaries and expenses of the Government National Mortgage Association: *Provided further*, That to the extent that guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$155,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2024, an additional \$100 for necessary salaries and expenses shall be available until expended for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$3,000,000: *Provided further*, That receipts from Commitment and Multiclass fees collected pursuant to title III of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1716 et seq.) shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, and for technical assistance, \$119,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That with respect to amounts made available under this heading, notwithstanding section 203 of this title, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, State or local governments and their agencies, Indian Tribes, tribally designated housing entities, or colleges or universities for research projects: *Provided further*, That with respect to the preceding proviso, such partners to the cooperative agreements shall contribute at least a 50 percent match toward the cost of the project: *Provided further*, That for non-competitive agreements entered into in accordance with the preceding two provisos, the Secretary shall comply with section 2(b) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-282; 31 U.S.C. note) in lieu of compliance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545(a)(4)(C)) with respect to documentation of award decisions: *Provided further*, That prior to obligation of technical assistance funding, the Secretary shall submit a plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on how the Secretary will allocate funding for this activity at least 30 days prior to obligation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading may be available for the doctoral dissertation research grant program: *Provided further*, That an additional \$20,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, shall be for competitive grants to nonprofit or governmental entities to provide legal assistance (including assistance related to pretrial activities, trial activities, post-trial activities and alternative dispute resolution) at no cost to eligible low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction: *Provided further*, That in awarding grants under the preceding proviso, the Secretary shall give preference to applicants that include a marketing strategy for residents of areas with high rates of eviction, have experience providing no-cost legal assistance to low-income individuals, including those with limited English proficiency or disabilities, and have sufficient capacity to administer such assistance: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that the proportion of eligible tenants living in rural areas who will receive legal assistance with grant funds made available under this heading is not less than the overall proportion of eligible tenants who live in rural areas.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3616a), \$86,355,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary may assess and collect fees to cover the costs of the Fair Housing Training Academy, and may use such funds to develop online courses

and provide such training: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$1,355,000 may be available to the Secretary for the creation and promotion of translated materials and other programs that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency in utilizing the services provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND
HEALTHY HOMES
LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the lead hazard reduction program, as authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4852), the healthy homes initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 and 1701z-2), and for related activities and assistance, \$345,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) \$200,000,000 shall be for the award of grants pursuant to such section 1011, of which not less than \$105,000,000 shall be provided to areas with the highest lead-based paint abatement need;

(2) \$140,000,000 shall be for the healthy homes initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970, which shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related diseases and hazards, and mitigating housing-related health and safety hazards in housing of low-income families, of which—

(A) \$5,000,000 shall be for the implementation of projects in communities that are served by both the healthy homes initiative and the Department of Energy weatherization programs to demonstrate whether the coordination of healthy homes remediation activities with weatherization activities achieves cost savings and better outcomes in improving the safety and quality of homes; and

(B) \$30,000,000 shall be for grants to experienced non-profit organizations, States, local governments, or public housing agencies for safety and functional home modification repairs and renovations to meet the needs of low-income seniors to enable them to remain in their primary residence, of which no less than \$10,000,000 shall be available to meet such needs in communities with substantial rural populations;

(3) \$3,000,000 shall be for the award of grants and contracts for research pursuant to sections 1051 and 1052 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4854, 4854a);

(4) up to \$2,000,000 in total of the amounts made available under paragraphs (2) and (3) may be transferred to the heading “Research and Technology” for the purposes of conducting research and studies and for use in accordance with the provisos under that heading for non-competitive agreements; and

(5) \$2,000,000 shall be for grants for a radon testing and mitigation safety demonstration program (the radon demonstration) in public housing: *Provided*, That the testing method, mitigation method, or action level used under the radon demonstration shall be as specified by applicable State or local law, if such law is more protective of human health or the environment than the method or level specified by the Secretary:

Provided further, That for purposes of environmental review, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other provisions of law that further the purposes of such Act, a grant under the healthy homes initiative, or the lead technical studies program, or other demonstrations or programs under this heading or under prior appropriations Acts for such purposes under this heading, or under the heading “Housing for the Elderly” under prior Appropriations Acts, shall be considered to be funds for a special project for purposes of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994: *Provided further*, That each applicant for a grant or cooperative agreement under this heading shall certify adequate capacity that is acceptable to the Secretary to carry out the proposed use of funds pursuant to a notice of funding opportunity: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading, in this or prior appropriations Acts, still remaining available, may be used for any purpose under this heading notwithstanding the purpose for which such amounts were appropriated if a program competition is undersubscribed and there are other program competitions under this heading that are oversubscribed: *Provided further*, That \$49,400,000 of the amounts made available under this heading in this Act from amounts specified in paragraph (2) shall be derived from unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, which shall continue to be available for the same time period as originally appropriated.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

For Department-wide and program-specific information technology systems and infrastructure, \$383,050,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, of which up to \$23,950,000 shall be for development, modernization, and enhancement projects, including planning for such projects: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Secretary shall brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on all information technology modernization efforts as required in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$152,924,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within this office.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) shall be rescinded or in the case of cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with

incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

SEC. 202. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a nonfrivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a Government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 203. Except as explicitly provided in law, any grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance made pursuant to title II of this Act shall be made on a competitive basis and in accordance with section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545).

SEC. 204. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of the Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811-1).

SEC. 205. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or through a reprogramming of funds, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any program, project or activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted to Congress.

SEC. 206. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of such Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2024 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations, or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 207. The Secretary shall provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding all uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured and excess funds in each program and activity within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall submit additional, updated budget information to these Committees upon request.

SEC. 208. None of the funds made available by this title may be used for an audit of the Government National Mortgage Association that makes applicable requirements under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

SEC. 209. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the conditions listed under this section, for fiscal years 2024

and 2025, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may authorize the transfer of some or all project-based assistance, debt held or insured by the Secretary and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions if any, associated with one or more multifamily housing project or projects to another multifamily housing project or projects.

(b) PHASED TRANSFERS.—Transfers of project-based assistance under this section may be done in phases to accommodate the financing and other requirements related to rehabilitating or constructing the project or projects to which the assistance is transferred, to ensure that such project or projects meet the standards under subsection (c).

(c) The transfer authorized in subsection (a) is subject to the following conditions:

(1) NUMBER AND BEDROOM SIZE OF UNITS.—

(A) For occupied units in the transferring project: The number of low-income and very low-income units and the configuration (i.e., bedroom size) provided by the transferring project shall be no less than when transferred to the receiving project or projects and the net dollar amount of Federal assistance provided to the transferring project shall remain the same in the receiving project or projects.

(B) For unoccupied units in the transferring project: The Secretary may authorize a reduction in the number of dwelling units in the receiving project or projects to allow for a reconfiguration of bedroom sizes to meet current market demands, as determined by the Secretary and provided there is no increase in the project-based assistance budget authority.

(2) The transferring project shall, as determined by the Secretary, be either physically obsolete or economically nonviable, or be reasonably expected to become economically nonviable when complying with State or Federal requirements for community integration and reduced concentration of individuals with disabilities.

(3) The receiving project or projects shall meet or exceed applicable physical standards established by the Secretary.

(4) The owner or mortgagor of the transferring project shall notify and consult with the tenants residing in the transferring project and provide a certification of approval by all appropriate local governmental officials.

(5) The tenants of the transferring project who remain eligible for assistance to be provided by the receiving project or projects shall not be required to vacate their units in the transferring project or projects until new units in the receiving project are available for occupancy.

(6) The Secretary determines that this transfer is in the best interest of the tenants.

(7) If either the transferring project or the receiving project or projects meets the condition specified in subsection (d)(2)(A), any lien on the receiving project resulting from additional financing obtained by the owner shall be subordinate to any FHA-insured mortgage lien transferred to, or placed on, such project by the Secretary, except that the Secretary may waive this requirement upon determination that such a waiver is necessary to facilitate the financing of acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of the receiving project or projects.

(8) If the transferring project meets the requirements of subsection (d)(2), the owner or mortgagor of the receiving project or projects shall execute and record either a continuation of the existing use agreement or a new use agreement for the project where, in either case, any use restrictions in such agreement are of no lesser duration than the existing use restrictions.

(9) The transfer does not increase the cost (as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a)) of any FHA-insured mortgage, except to the extent that appropriations are provided in advance for the amount of any such increased cost.

(d) For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms “low-income” and “very low-income” shall have the meanings provided by the statute and/or regulations governing the program under which the project is insured or assisted;

(2) the term “multifamily housing project” means housing that meets one of the following conditions—

(A) housing that is subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act;

(B) housing that has project-based assistance attached to the structure including projects undergoing mark to market debt restructuring under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Housing Act;

(C) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q);

(D) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q), as such section existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(E) housing that is assisted under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013); or

(F) housing or vacant land that is subject to a use agreement;

(3) the term “project-based assistance” means—

(A) assistance provided under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(b));

(B) assistance for housing constructed or substantially rehabilitated pursuant to assistance provided under section 8(b)(2) of such Act (as such section existed immediately before October 1, 1983);

(C) rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s);

(D) interest reduction payments under section 236 and/or additional assistance payments under section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1);

(E) assistance payments made under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(c)(2)); and

(F) assistance payments made under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2));

(4) the term “receiving project or projects” means the multifamily housing project or projects to which some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions are to be transferred;

(5) the term “transferring project” means the multifamily housing project which is transferring some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and the statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions to the receiving project or projects; and

(6) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(e) RESEARCH REPORT.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the transfer authority under this section, including the effect of such transfers on the operational efficiency, contract rents, physical and financial conditions, and long-term preservation of the affected properties.

SEC. 210. (a) No assistance shall be provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) to any individual who—

(1) is enrolled as a student at an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002));

(2) is under 24 years of age;

(3) is not a veteran;

(4) is unmarried;

(5) does not have a dependent child;

(6) is not a person with disabilities, as such term is defined in section 3(b)(3)(E) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(E)) and was not receiving assistance under such section 8 as of November 30, 2005;

(7) is not a youth who left foster care at age 14 or older and is at risk of becoming homeless; and

(8) is not otherwise individually eligible, or has parents who, individually or jointly, are not eligible, to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a person to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), any financial assistance (in excess of amounts received for tuition and any other required fees and charges) that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), from private sources, or from an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall be considered income to that individual, except for a person over the age of 23 with dependent children.

SEC. 211. The funds made available for Native Alaskans under paragraph (1) under the heading “Native American Programs” in title II of this Act shall be allocated to the same Native Alaskan housing block grant recipients that received funds in fiscal year 2005, and only such recipients shall be eligible to apply for funds made available under paragraph (2) of such heading.

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2024, in managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or has a mortgage held by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and during the process of foreclosure on any property with a contract for rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) or any other Federal programs, the Secretary shall maintain any rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and other programs that are attached to any dwelling units in the property. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government that such a multifamily property owned or having a mortgage held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (in this section “MAHRAA”) (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and

use of other available remedies, such as partial abatements or receivership. After disposition of any multifamily property described in this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SEC. 213. Public housing agencies that own and operate 400 or fewer public housing units may elect to be exempt from any asset management requirement imposed by the Secretary in connection with the operating fund rule: *Provided*, That an agency seeking a discontinuance of a reduction of subsidy under the operating fund formula shall not be exempt from asset management requirements.

SEC. 214. With respect to the use of amounts provided in this Act and in future Acts for the operation, capital improvement, and management of public housing as authorized by sections 9(d) and 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d), (e)), the Secretary shall not impose any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits in any way the use of capital funds for central office costs pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 9(g) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)(1), (2)): *Provided*, That a public housing agency may not use capital funds authorized under section 9(d) for activities that are eligible under section 9(e) for assistance with amounts from the operating fund in excess of the amounts permitted under paragraph (1) or (2) of section 9(g).

SEC. 215. No official or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has determined that such allotment holder has implemented an adequate system of funds control and has received training in funds control procedures and directives. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that there is a trained allotment holder for each HUD appropriation under the accounts "Executive Offices", "Administrative Support Offices", "Program Offices", "Government National Mortgage Association—Guarantees of Mortgage-Backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account", and "Office of Inspector General" within the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 216. The Secretary shall, for fiscal year 2024, notify the public through the Federal Register and other means, as determined appropriate, of the issuance of a notice of the availability of assistance or notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for any program or discretionary fund administered by the Secretary that is to be competitively awarded. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal year 2024, the Secretary may make the NOFO available only on the Internet at the appropriate Government website or through other electronic media, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 217. Payment of attorney fees in program-related litigation shall be paid from the individual program office and Office of General Counsel salaries and expenses appropriations.

SEC. 218. The Secretary is authorized to transfer up to 10 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, of funds appropriated for any office under the headings "Administrative Support Offices" or "Program Offices" to any other such office under such headings: *Provided*, That no appropriation for any such office under such headings shall be increased or decreased by more than 10 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide notification to such Committees 3 business days in advance of any such transfers under this sec-

tion up to 10 percent or \$5,000,000, whichever is less.

SEC. 219. (a) Any entity receiving housing assistance payments shall maintain decent, safe, and sanitary conditions, as determined by the Secretary, and comply with any standards under applicable State or local laws, rules, ordinances, or regulations relating to the physical condition of any property covered under a housing assistance payment contract.

(b) The Secretary shall take action under subsection (c) when a multifamily housing project with a contract under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) or a contract for similar project-based assistance—

(1) receives a failing score under the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) or successor standard; or

(2) fails to certify in writing to the Secretary within 3 days that all Exigent Health and Safety deficiencies, or those deficiencies requiring correction within 24 hours, identified by the inspector at the project have been corrected.

Such requirements shall apply to insured and noninsured projects with assistance attached to the units under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), but shall not apply to such units assisted under section 8(o)(13) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) or to public housing units assisted with capital or operating funds under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g).

(c)(1) Within 15 days of the issuance of the Real Estate Assessment Center ("REAC") inspection, the Secretary shall provide the owner with a Notice of Default with a specified timetable, determined by the Secretary, for correcting all deficiencies. The Secretary shall provide a copy of the Notice of Default to the tenants, the local government, any mortgagees, and any contract administrator. If the owner's appeal results in a passing score, the Secretary may withdraw the Notice of Default.

(2) At the end of the time period for correcting all deficiencies specified in the Notice of Default, if the owner fails to fully correct such deficiencies, the Secretary may—

(A) require immediate replacement of project management with a management agent approved by the Secretary;

(B) impose civil money penalties, which shall be used solely for the purpose of supporting safe and sanitary conditions at applicable properties, as designated by the Secretary, with priority given to the tenants of the property affected by the penalty;

(C) abate the section 8 contract, including partial abatement, as determined by the Secretary, until all deficiencies have been corrected;

(D) pursue transfer of the project to an owner, approved by the Secretary under established procedures, who will be obligated to promptly make all required repairs and to accept renewal of the assistance contract if such renewal is offered;

(E) transfer the existing section 8 contract to another project or projects and owner or owners;

(F) pursue exclusionary sanctions, including suspensions or debarments from Federal programs;

(G) seek judicial appointment of a receiver to manage the property and cure all project deficiencies or seek a judicial order of specific performance requiring the owner to cure all project deficiencies;

(H) work with the owner, lender, or other related party to stabilize the property in an attempt to preserve the property through compliance, transfer of ownership, or an infusion of capital provided by a third-party that requires time to effectuate; or

(I) take any other regulatory or contractual remedies available as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Secretary.

(d) The Secretary shall take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for major threats to health and safety after written notice to the affected tenants. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that the property is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of—

(1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 ("MAHRAA"); and

(2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance.

(e) The Secretary shall report semi-annually on all properties covered by this section that are assessed through the Real Estate Assessment Center and have failing physical inspection scores or have received an unsatisfactory management and occupancy review within the past 36 months. The report shall include—

(1) identification of the enforcement actions being taken to address such conditions, including imposition of civil money penalties and termination of subsidies, and identification of properties that have such conditions multiple times;

(2) identification of actions that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is taking to protect tenants of such identified properties; and

(3) any administrative or legislative recommendations to further improve the living conditions at properties covered under a housing assistance payment contract.

The first report shall be submitted to the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act, and the second report shall be submitted within 180 days of the transmittal of the first report.

SEC. 220. None of the funds made available by this Act, or any other Act, for purposes authorized under section 8 (only with respect to the tenant-based rental assistance program) and section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), may be used by any public housing agency for any amount of salary, including bonuses, for the chief executive officer of which, or any other official or employee of which, that exceeds the annual rate of basic pay payable for a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule at any time during any public housing agency fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 221. None of the funds made available by this Act and provided to the Department of Housing and Urban Development may be used to make a grant award unless the Secretary notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project, State, locality, housing authority, Tribe, nonprofit organization, or other entity selected to receive a grant award is announced by the Department or its offices: *Provided*, That such notification shall list each grant award by State and congressional district.

SEC. 222. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used by the Federal Housing Administration, the Government National Mortgage Association, or the Department of Housing and Urban Development to insure, securitize, or establish a Federal

guarantee of any mortgage or mortgage backed security that refinances or otherwise replaces a mortgage that has been subject to eminent domain condemnation or seizure, by a State, municipality, or any other political subdivision of a State.

SEC. 223. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to terminate the status of a unit of general local government as a metropolitan city (as defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302)) with respect to grants under section 106 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5306).

SEC. 224. Amounts made available by this Act that are appropriated, allocated, advanced on a reimbursable basis, or transferred to the Office of Policy Development and Research of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and functions thereof, for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, and that are unexpended at the time of completion of a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement, may be deobligated and shall immediately become available and may be reobligated in that fiscal year or the subsequent fiscal year for the research, evaluation, or statistical purposes for which the amounts are made available to that Office subject to reprogramming requirements in section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 225. None of the funds provided in this Act or any other Act may be used for awards, including performance, special act, or spot, for any employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to administrative discipline (including suspension from work), in this fiscal year, but this prohibition shall not be effective prior to the effective date of any such administrative discipline or after any final decision overturning such discipline.

SEC. 226. With respect to grant amounts awarded under the heading “Homeless Assistance Grants” for fiscal years 2015 through 2024 for the continuum of care (CoC) program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, costs paid by program income of grant recipients may count toward meeting the recipient’s matching requirements, provided the costs are eligible CoC costs that supplement the recipient’s CoC program.

SEC. 227. (a) From amounts made available under this title under the heading “Homeless Assistance Grants”, the Secretary may award 1-year transition grants to recipients of funds for activities under subtitle C of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.) to transition from one continuum of care program component to another.

(b) In order to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the funding recipient must have the consent of the continuum of care and meet standards determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 228. The promise zone designations and promise zone designation agreements entered into pursuant to such designations, made by the Secretary in prior fiscal years, shall remain in effect in accordance with the terms and conditions of such agreements.

SEC. 229. Any public housing agency designated as a Moving to Work agency pursuant to section 239 of division L of Public Law 114-113 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note; 129 Stat. 2897) may, upon such designation, use funds (except for special purpose funding, including special purpose vouchers) previously allocated to any such public housing agency under section 8 or 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, including any reserve funds held by the public housing agency or funds held by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, pursuant to the authority for use of section 8 or 9 funding provided under such section and section 204 of title II of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and

Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-134; 110 Stat. 1321-28), notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated.

SEC. 230. None of the amounts made available by this Act may be used to prohibit any public housing agency under receivership or the direction of a Federal monitor from applying for, receiving, or using funds made available under the heading “Public Housing Fund” for competitive grants to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards in this Act or that remain available and not awarded from prior Acts, or be used to prohibit a public housing agency from using such funds to carry out any required work pursuant to a settlement agreement, consent decree, voluntary agreement, or similar document for a violation of the lead safe housing or lead disclosure rules.

SEC. 231. The language under the heading “Rental Assistance Demonstration” in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (title II of division C of Public Law 112-55), as most recently amended by Public Law 117-103, is further amended—

(1) in the initial undesignated matter, by striking “and ‘Public Housing Operating Fund’” and inserting “, ‘Public Housing Operating Fund’, and ‘Public Housing Fund’”;

(2) in the second proviso, by striking “2024” and inserting “2029”;

(3) after the fourth proviso, by inserting the following new provisos: “*Provided further*, That at properties with assistance under section 9 of the Act requesting to partially convert such assistance, and where an event under section 18 of the Act occurs that results in the eligibility for tenant protection vouchers under section 8(o) of the Act, the Secretary may convert the tenant protection voucher assistance to assistance under a project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997, or assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act, so long as the property meets any additional requirements established by the Secretary to facilitate conversion: *Provided further*, That to facilitate the conversion of assistance under the previous proviso, the Secretary may transfer an amount equal to the total amount that would have been allocated for tenant protection voucher assistance for properties that have requested such conversions from amounts made available for tenant protection voucher assistance under the heading ‘Tenant-Based Rental Assistance’ to the heading ‘Project-Based Rental Assistance’: *Provided further*, That at properties with assistance previously converted hereunder to assistance under the heading ‘Project-Based Rental Assistance,’ which are also separately assisted under section 8(o)(13) of the Act, the Secretary may, with the consent of the public housing agency and owner, terminate such project-based subsidy contracts and immediately enter into one new project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997, subject to the requirement that any residents assisted under section 8(o)(13) of the Act at the time of such termination of such project-based subsidy contract shall retain all rights accrued under section 8(o)(13)(E) of the Act under the new project-based subsidy contract and section 8(o)(13)(F)(iv) of the Act shall not apply: *Provided further*, That to carry out the previous proviso, the Secretary may transfer from the heading ‘Tenant-Based Rental Assistance’ to the heading ‘Project-Based Rental Assistance’ an amount equal to

the amounts associated with such terminating contract under section 8(o)(13) of the Act:”;

(4) in the fourteenth proviso, as reordered above, by—

(A) inserting “‘Public Housing Fund’, ‘Self-Sufficiency Programs’, ‘Family Self-Sufficiency’” following “‘Public Housing Operating Fund’,”; and

(B) inserting “or the ongoing availability of services for residents” after “effective conversion of assistance under the demonstration”;

(5) after the twenty-fourth proviso, as reordered above, by inserting the following proviso: “*Provided further*, That owners of properties with a senior preservation rental assistance contract under section 811 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000 (12 U.S.C. 1701q note), shall be eligible, subject to requirements established by the Secretary as necessary to facilitate the conversion of assistance while maintaining the affordability period and the designation of the property as serving elderly families, and tenant consultation procedures, for conversion of assistance available for such assistance contracts to assistance under a long-term project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act:”;

(6) in the twenty-ninth proviso, as reordered above, by inserting “, section 811 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000,” after “Housing Act of 1959”; and

(7) in the thirty-fourth proviso, as reordered above, by striking “any section 202 project rental assistance contract or section 811 project rental assistance contract conversions” and inserting “the conversion of assistance from section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959, section 811 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, or section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act”.

SEC. 232. For fiscal year 2024, if the Secretary determines or has determined, for any prior formula grant allocation administered by the Secretary through the Offices of Public and Indian Housing, Community Planning and Development, or Housing, that a recipient received an allocation greater than the amount such recipient should have received for a formula allocation cycle pursuant to applicable statutes and regulations, the Secretary may adjust for any such funding error in the next applicable formula allocation cycle by (a) offsetting each such recipient’s formula allocation (if eligible for a formula allocation in the next applicable formula allocation cycle) by the amount of any such funding error, and (b) reallocating any available balances that are attributable to the offset to the recipient or recipients that would have been allocated additional funds in the formula allocation cycle in which any such error occurred (if such recipient or recipients are eligible for a formula allocation in the next applicable formula allocation cycle) in an amount proportionate to such recipient’s eligibility under the next applicable formula allocation cycle: *Provided*, That all offsets and reallocations from such available balances shall be recorded against funds available for the next applicable formula allocation cycle: *Provided further*, That the term “next applicable formula allocation cycle” means the first formula allocation cycle for a program that is reasonably available for correction following such a Secretarial determination: *Provided further*, That if, upon request by a recipient and giving consideration to all Federal resources available to the recipient for the same grant purposes, the Secretary determines that the offset in the next applicable formula allocation cycle would critically impair the recipient’s

ability to accomplish the purpose of the formula grant, the Secretary may adjust for the funding error across two or more formula allocation cycles.

SEC. 233. The Secretary may transfer from amounts made available for salaries and expenses under this title (excluding amounts made available under the heading “Office of Inspector General”) to the heading “Information Technology Fund” for information technology needs, including for additional development, modernization, and enhancement, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the total amount of such transfers shall not exceed \$5,000,000: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority shall not be used to fund information technology projects or activities that have known out-year development, modernization, or enhancement costs in excess of \$500,000: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no fewer than 3 business days in advance of any such transfer.

SEC. 234. The Secretary shall comply with all process requirements, including public notice and comment, when seeking to revise any annual contributions contract.

SEC. 235. There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the “Department of Housing and Urban Development Nonrecurring Expenses Fund” (the Fund): *Provided*, That unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the Department of Housing and Urban Development by this or any other Act may be transferred (not later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which they were appropriated) into the Fund: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in the Fund shall be available until expended, in addition to such other funds as may be available for such purposes, for capital needs of the Department, including facilities infrastructure and information technology infrastructure, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget: *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SEC. 236. (a) Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading “Lead Hazard Reduction” in title II of division L of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103), \$65,000,000 is hereby permanently rescinded from the amounts specified in paragraph (1) under such heading (excluding amounts for areas with the highest lead-based paint abatement needs).

(b) Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading “Public Housing Fund” in title II of division L of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328), \$20,000,000 is hereby permanently rescinded from the amounts specified in paragraph (7) under such heading.

(c) Any unobligated balances (including any unobligated balances of contract authority) included under Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbols 86 X 0129, 86 X 0148, 86 X 0197, 86 X 0314, 86 X 0315, 86 X 0324, 86 X 0402, 86 X 4058 and 86 X 8093 are hereby permanently rescinded.

(d) Any unobligated balances from amounts made available under the heading “Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program” for the program authorized under section 1079 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Pub-

lic Law 113-291) are hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 237. None of the funds made available to the Department of Housing and Urban Development in this or prior Acts may be used to issue a solicitation or accept bids on any solicitation that is substantially equivalent to the draft solicitation entitled “Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Contract Support Services (HAPSS)” posted to www.Sam.gov on July 27, 2022.

SEC. 238. None of the amounts made available in this Act may be used to consider family self-sufficiency performance measures or performance scores in determining funding awards for programs receiving family self-sufficiency program coordinator funding provided in this Act.

SEC. 239. (a) Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31) for the “Choice Neighborhoods Initiative” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2019 are to remain available through fiscal year 2025 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2017 through 2019.

(b) Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) for the “Choice Neighborhoods Initiative” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2020 are to remain available through fiscal year 2026 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2018 through 2020.

(c) Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6) for the “Choice Neighborhoods Initiative” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2021 are to remain available through fiscal year 2027 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

(d) Funds previously made available in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94) for the “Choice Neighborhoods Initiative” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2022 are to remain available through fiscal year 2028 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2020 through 2022.

(e) Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) for the “Choice Neighborhoods Initiative” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2023 are to remain available through fiscal year 2029 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2021 through 2023.

(f) Funds previously made available in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) for “Lead Hazard Reduction” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2019 are to remain available through fiscal year 2026 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2018 through 2019.

SEC. 240. Of the amounts made available for the Office of Policy Development and Research under the heading “Program Offices”, up to \$3,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, may be transferred to the heading “Information Technology Fund” to be available for the needs of the Chief Data Officer, in addition to amounts otherwise available, including for additional development, modernization, and enhancement: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no fewer than 3 business days in advance of any such transfer.

SEC. 241. Section 239 of division L of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113) is amended by striking “2028” and inserting “2038”.

SEC. 242. For fiscal years 2024 and 2025, the Secretary may issue a 2-year notification of funding opportunity, including any alternative procedures or requirements as may be

necessary to allocate future appropriations in the second year, for the award of amounts made available for the continuum of care program under subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.), notwithstanding any conflict with the requirements of the continuum of care program.

SEC. 243. The Secretary may, upon a finding that a waiver or alternative requirement is necessary for the effective delivery and administration of funds made available for new incremental voucher assistance or renewals for the mainstream program and the family unification program (including the foster youth to independence program) in this and prior Acts, waive or specify alternative requirements, other than requirements related to tenant rights and protections, rent setting, fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment, for—

(1) section 8(o)(6)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(6)(A)) and regulatory provisions related to the administration of waiting lists, local preferences, and the initial term and extensions of tenant-based vouchers; and

(2) section 8(x)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)(2)) regarding the timing of referral of youth leaving foster care.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2024”.

TITLE III RELATED AGENCIES ACCESS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Access Board, as authorized by section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 792), \$9,955,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation funds received for publications and training expenses.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as authorized by section 46107 of title 46, United States Code, including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code, \$40,000,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 3), \$29,240,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in such Act, to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the Government under section 1001 of title 18, United States Code, by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern the obtaining of such services within the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be

necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office of Inspector General, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern such selections, appointments, and employment within the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That concurrent with the President's budget request for fiscal year 2025, the Inspector General shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a budget request for fiscal year 2025 in similar format and substance to budget requests submitted by executive agencies of the Federal Government.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS-15; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code, \$140,000,000, of which not to exceed \$1,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION
PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD
REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101–8107), \$158,000,000.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, including services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$47,452,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed \$1,250,000 from fees established by the Surface Transportation Board shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and used for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading: *Provided further*, That the amounts made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2024, to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$46,202,000.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS
OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, \$4,300,000.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

SEC. 401. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 403. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through a procurement contract pursu-

ant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive Order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 404. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or “new age” belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N-915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants’ personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 405. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates a new program;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either the House or Senate Committees on Appropriations for a different purpose;

(5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) creates, reorganizes, or restructures a branch, division, office, bureau, board, commission, agency, administration, or department different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the table accompanying the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), whichever is more detailed, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations:

Provided, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the report shall include—

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

(B) a delineation in the table for each appropriation and its respective prior year enacted level by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in this Act, the table accompanying the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), accompanying reports of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, or in the budget appendix for the respective appropriations, whichever is more detailed, and shall apply to all items for which a dollar amount is specified and to all programs for which new budget (obligational) authority is provided, as well as to discretionary grants and discretionary grant allocations; and

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

SEC. 406. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2024 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2024 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2025, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines under section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 407. No funds in this Act may be used to support any Federal, State, or local projects that seek to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, public use shall not be construed to include economic development that primarily benefits private entities: *Provided further*, That any use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport or highway projects, as well as utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related and wastewater-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or which have other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownfields as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Public Law 107-118) shall be considered a public use for purposes of eminent domain.

SEC. 408. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 409. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 8301–8305, popularly known as the “Buy American Act”).

SEC. 410. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 8301–8305).

SEC. 411. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of sections 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 412. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of a single agency or department of the United States Government, who are stationed in the United States, at any single

international conference unless the relevant Secretary reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term “international conference” shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

SEC. 413. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Surface Transportation Board to charge or collect any filing fee for rate or practice complaints filed with the Board in an amount in excess of the amount authorized for district court civil suit filing fees under section 1914 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 414. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 415. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), or to prevent or impede that Inspector General’s access to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to the Inspector General and expressly limits the Inspector General’s right of access.

(b) A department or agency covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General with access to all such records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner.

(c) Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the establishment over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(d) Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 5 calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 416. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractors whose performance has been judged to be below satisfactory, behind schedule, over budget, or has failed to meet the basic requirements of a contract, unless the Agency determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program unless such awards or incentive fees are consistent with 16.401(e)(2) of the Federal Acquisition Regulations.

SEC. 417. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to pay the salary for any person filling a position, other than a temporary position, formerly held by an employee who has left to enter the Armed Forces of the United States and has satisfactorily completed his or her period of active military or naval service, and has within 90 days after his or her release from such service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not

more than 1 year, made application for restoration to his or her former position and has been certified by the Office of Personnel Management as still qualified to perform the duties of his or her former position and has not been restored thereto.

SEC. 418. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to approve a new foreign air carrier permit under sections 41301 through 41305 of title 49, United States Code, or exemption application under section 40109 of that title of an air carrier already holding an air operators certificate issued by a country that is party to the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement where such approval would contravene United States law or Article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict or otherwise preclude the Secretary of Transportation from granting a foreign air carrier permit or an exemption to such an air carrier where such authorization is consistent with the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement and United States law.

SEC. 419. (a) In the table of projects in the explanatory statement referenced in section 417 of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2022 (division L of Public Law 117-103)—

(1) the item relating to “Midland Center for the Arts only for structural improvements” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “City of Midland” and inserting “Midland Center for the Arts”;

(2) the item relating to “Barren County Fiscal Court—Chapatcha Industrial Park Development” is deemed to be amended by striking project “Barren County Fiscal Court—Chapatcha Industrial Park Development” and inserting “Barren County Fiscal Court—Chapatcha Industrial Park or South Cooper Industrial Park Development”;

(3) the item relating to “Pasco County Board of County Commissioners—Rural Northwest Pasco Community Park Site Acquisition” is deemed to be amended by striking “Northwest” and inserting “Northeast”;

(4) the item relating to “Wood County Development Authority—Site Readiness & Redevelopment Downtown Parkersburg” is deemed to be amended by striking “Wood County Development Authority—Site Readiness & Redevelopment Downtown Parkersburg” and inserting “Redevelopment of Downtown Parkersburg”;

(5) the item relating to “Rosemary’s Way Penacook Affordable Housing” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “CATCH Neighborhood Housing” and inserting “Concord Area Trust for Community Housing”;

(6) the item relating to “Lead Safe Home Fund” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition” and inserting “Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation”;

(7) the item relating to “Boys & Girls Club in Miami Gardens” is deemed to be amended by striking “Club in Miami Gardens” and inserting “Clubs within the Miami-Dade area”;

(8) the item relating to “Acquisition of new commercial space” is deemed to be amended by striking “Acquisition of new commercial space” and inserting “Renovation of community center”;

(9) the item relating to “North Commons Regional Vision” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board” and inserting “City of Minneapolis”;

(10) the item relating to “Electric school bus and associated electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Falls Church

City Public Schools” and inserting “City of Falls Church”;

(11) the item relating to “A PLACE 4 ALICE facility improvement” is deemed to be amended by striking “A PLACE 4 ALICE facility improvement” and inserting “Affordable Housing and Community Facilities”; and

(b) In the table of projects entitled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement for division L of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of such Act—

(1) the item relating to “River Road Homes Affordable Housing Infrastructure” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Town of Canaan” and inserting “Falls Village Housing Trust Inc.”;

(2) the item relating to “The Star Community Family Life Center” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “The Star Community Family Life Center” and inserting “MSBC Five Star Program, Inc.”;

(3) the item relating to “Early Learning Childcare Center Construction” (recipient “The Caring Place”) is deemed to be amended by striking “Early Learning Childcare Center Construction” and inserting “CARE Center construction”;

(4) the item relating to “Upper Bucks Rail Trail” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Appalachian Mountain Club” and inserting “The County of Bucks”;

(5) the item relating to “YMCA & Albion College Initiative of the Washington Gardner Center Building Renovation and Expansion” is deemed to be amended by striking “YMCA & Albion College Initiative of the Washington Gardner Center Building Renovation and Expansion” and inserting “Site improvements”;

(6) the item relating to “Wood County Industrial Site Readiness and Redevelopment” is deemed to be amended by striking “Wood County Industrial Site Readiness & Redevelopment” and inserting “Redevelopment of Downtown Parkersburg”;

(7) the item relating to “B-360 Educational Campus” is deemed to be amended by striking “I Am Mentality, Inc.” and inserting “B-360 Baltimore, Inc.”;

(8) the item relating to “Riverbrook Regional YMCA” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Riverbrook Regional Young Men’s Christian Association, Inc.” and inserting “City of Norwalk”;

(9) the item relating to “Miami Veterans Housing Project” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “United Way Miami” and inserting “CRC Leadership, Inc.”;

(10) the item relating to “Supportive Living, Community Day Services, and Housing Site Project for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities” is deemed to be amended by striking “, Community Day Services, and Housing”;

(11) the item relating to “Public Library Addition” is deemed to be amended by striking “Addition” and inserting “Renovation”;

(12) the item relating to “Renovation of Snelling Motel for Affordable Housing for Veterans” is deemed to be amended by striking “Snelling Motel to” and inserting “Hotel for”;

(13) the item relating to “Indigenous Farm Hub” is deemed to be amended by striking recipient “Tides Center” and inserting “Native American Community Academy Inspired Schools Network (NISN)”;

(14) the item relating to “El Centro de la Raza—Pattison’s West Community Campus Property Acquisition” is deemed to be amended by striking “El Centro de la Raza—Pattison’s West Community Campus Property Acquisition” and inserting “Pattison’s West Community Campus”;

11(c)(4)(B)) is amended by striking “March 8, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”.

Subtitle B—Medicaid

SEC. 201. REQUIREMENT FOR STATE MEDICAID PLANS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(29), by striking “for the period beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2025,” and inserting “beginning on October 1, 2020,”; and

(2) in subsection (ee)(2), by striking “for the period specified in such paragraph, if before the beginning of such period the State certifies to the satisfaction of the Secretary” and inserting “if such State certifies, not less than every 5 years and to the satisfaction of the Secretary.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1006(b)(4)(A) of the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a note) is amended by striking “, and before October 1, 2025”.

SEC. 202. COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF COMPREHENSIVE DATA FOR SPECIFIED POPULATIONS ENROLLED IN MEDICAID AND CHIP.

Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 1948. COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF COMPREHENSIVE DATA FOR SPECIFIED POPULATIONS.

“(a) RECURRING ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION OF HEALTH CARE DATA RELATED TO TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OR A MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, on an annual basis, shall link, analyze, and publish on a publicly available website data reported by States through the Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) (or a successor system) relating to substance use disorder and mental health services provided to individuals enrolled under a State plan under this title or a State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder or mental health condition, including an analysis that is disaggregated by age. Such enrollee information shall be de-identified of any personally identifying information, shall adhere to privacy standards established by the Department of Health and Human Services, and shall be aggregated to protect the privacy of enrollees, as necessary.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The analysis required under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, the following data for each State (including, to the extent available, for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa):

“(A) The number and percentage of individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) in each of the major enrollment categories (as defined in a public letter from the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission to the Secretary) who have been diagnosed with—

- “(i) a substance use disorder;
- “(ii) a mental health condition; or
- “(iii) a co-occurring substance use disorder and mental health condition.

“(B) With respect to individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who have received a diagnosis described in subparagraph (A), a list of the substance use disorder and mental health treatment services, including, to the extent such data are available, spe-

cific adult and pediatric services by each major type of service, such as counseling, intensive home-based services, intensive care coordination, crisis services tailored to children and youth, peer support services, family-to-family support, inpatient hospitalization, medication-assisted treatment, residential treatment, and other appropriate services as identified by the Secretary, for which beneficiaries in each State received at least 1 service under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans).

“(C) With respect to each diagnosis described in subparagraph (A), the number and percentage of individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who have such diagnosis and received services for such diagnosis under such plan or waiver by each major type of treatment service listed under subparagraph (B) within each major setting type, such as outpatient, inpatient, residential, and other home-based and community-based settings.

“(D) The number of services provided under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) per individual enrolled under such plan or waiver who has a diagnosis described in subparagraph (A) for each such diagnosis and each major type of treatment service listed under subparagraph (B).

“(E) The number and percentage of individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) by major enrollment category, who have a diagnosis described in subparagraph (A) and received substance use disorder or mental health treatment through—

“(i) a Medicaid managed care entity (as defined in section 1932(a)(1)(B)), including the number of such individuals who received such assistance through a prepaid inpatient health plan (as defined by the Secretary) or a prepaid ambulatory health plan (as defined by the Secretary);

- “(ii) a fee-for-service payment model; or
- “(iii) an alternative payment model, to the extent available.

“(F) The number and percentage of individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who have a diagnosis described in subparagraph (A) and received services for a mental health condition or a substance use disorder in an outpatient or community-based or home-based setting after receiving mental health or substance use disorder services in an inpatient or residential setting, and the number of mental health or substance use disorder services received by such individuals in the outpatient or community-based or home-based setting.

“(G) The number and percentage of inpatient admissions in which services for a mental health condition or substance use disorder were provided to an individual enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) that occurred within 30 days after discharge from a hospital or residential facility in which services for a mental health condition or substance use disorder previously were provided to such individual, disaggregated by each diagnosis described in subparagraph (A) and type of facility, to the extent such information is available.

“(H) The number of emergency department visits by an individual enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who has a diagnosis de-

scribed in subparagraph (A) within 7 days of such individual being discharged from an inpatient stay at a hospital during which services for a mental health condition or substance use disorder were provided, or from a mental health facility, an independent psychiatric wing of an acute care hospital, an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities, or a residential treatment facility, disaggregated by each diagnosis described in subparagraph (A) and type of facility, to the extent such information is available.

“(I) The number and percentage of individuals who are enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) and received an assessment for a mental health condition.

“(J) The number and percentage of individuals who are enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) and received an assessment for a substance use disorder.

“(K) The number of mental health services provided to individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who received an assessment described in subparagraph (I) in the 30 days post-assessment.

“(L) The number of substance use disorder treatment services provided to individuals enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) who received an assessment described in subparagraph (I) in the 30 days post-assessment.

“(M) Prescription National Drug Code codes, fill dates, and number of days supply of any covered outpatient drug (as defined in section 1927(k)(2)) that was dispensed to an individual enrolled under the State plan under this title or the State child health plan under title XXI (or under a waiver of such plans) with an episode described in subparagraph (G) or (H) during any period that occurs after the individual’s discharge date defined in subparagraph (G) or (H) (as applicable), and before the admission date applicable under subparagraph (G) or the date of the emergency department visit applicable under subparagraph (H) that were—

- “(i) to treat a mental health condition; or
- “(ii) to treat a substance use disorder.

“(b) PUBLICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall make publicly available the first analysis required by subsection (a).

“(2) ANNUAL UPDATES.—The Secretary shall issue an updated version of the analysis required under subsection (a) not later than January 1 of each calendar year.

“(3) USE OF T-MSIS DATA.—The analysis required under subsection (a) and updates required under paragraph (4) shall—

“(A) use data and definitions from the T-MSIS data set that is no more than 12 months old on the date that the analysis or update is published; and

“(B) as appropriate, include a description with respect to each State of the quality and completeness of the data and caveats describing the limitations of the data reported to the Secretary by the State that is sufficient to communicate the appropriate uses for the information.

“(4) REVISED PUBLICATION.—Beginning not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary annually shall publish a revised publication of the analysis required by subsection (a) that allows for a research-ready and publicly accessible interface of the publication and is developed after consultation with stakeholders

(A) by inserting “or pregnancy-related” after “child health”;

(B) by inserting “or targeted low-income pregnant woman” after “targeted low-income child”;

(C) by inserting “or pregnant woman” after “because the child”; and

(D) by inserting “or pregnant woman” after “during the period the child”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply beginning January 1, 2026.

(c) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

(1) Section 1902(nn)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395a(a)(nn)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “State plan” and inserting “State plan (or waiver of such plan)”.

(2) Section 1902(nn)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(nn)(3)), is amended by striking “paragraph (31)” and inserting “the last numbered paragraph”.

(3) Section 5122(a)(1) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) is amended by striking “after” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “after ‘or in the case of an eligible juvenile described in section 1902(a)(84)(D) with respect to the screenings, diagnostic services, referrals, and targeted case management services required under such section’.”.

(4) The fifth sentence of section 1905(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)) is amended by striking “paragraph (30)” and inserting “the last numbered paragraph”.

SEC. 206. ADDRESSING OPERATIONAL BARRIERS TO PROMOTE CONTINUITY OF CARE FOR MEDICAID AND CHIP BENEFICIARIES FOLLOWING INCARCERATION.

(a) STATE PLANNING GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall award grants to States for the purpose of developing operational capabilities to promote continuity of care for individuals who are inmates of a public institution and are eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid program or are eligible for child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under the State CHIP.

(2) USE OF FUNDS.—A State may use funds awarded under a grant under this subsection for activities and expenses related to complying with the requirement described in section 1902(a)(84)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(84)(A)) that a State shall not terminate eligibility for medical assistance, complying with the requirements of sections 1902(a)(84)(D) and 2102(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(84)(D), 1397bb(d)), or adopting the State plan options described in the subdivision (A) following the last numbered paragraph of section 1905(a) and 2110(b)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a), 1397jj(b)(7)), or other activities and expenses to promote continuity of care for individuals described in paragraph (1). Such activities and expenses may include—

(A) identifying and addressing operational gaps with respect to complying with such requirements or adopting such options, in collaboration with public institutions, State human services agencies, Medicaid managed care plans, providers, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders;

(B) establishing standardized processes and automated systems for activities that may include, but are not limited to—

(i) determining whether an individual is enrolled in a State Medicaid program or State CHIP at the time such individual becomes an inmate of a public institution;

(ii) allowing an individual who is an inmate of a public institution to submit an ap-

plication to enroll or renew coverage in a State Medicaid program or State CHIP prior to the individual’s release from such public institution;

(iii) facilitating the delivery of medical assistance under the State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under the State CHIP to an individual who is eligible for such assistance while the individual is an inmate of a public institution, such as by establishing claims processing and prior authorization request protocols; and

(iv) in the case of an eligible individual whose coverage under a State Medicaid program or State CHIP was suspended while the individual was an inmate of a public institution, restoring such coverage upon such individual’s release from the public institution;

(C) investing in information technology to—

(i) enable bi-directional information sharing between public institutions, the State Medicaid and CHIP agencies, and other entities such as managed care plans and providers (in a manner consistent with applicable State and Federal privacy laws), to support care transitions and coordination of treatment (including access to care in the community after release from a public institution); and

(ii) develop indicators to ensure Federal financial participation for medical assistance furnished under a State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance furnished under a State CHIP is available only for medical assistance or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance for items and services for which such participation is permitted while an individual is an inmate of a public institution; and

(D) establishing oversight and monitoring processes to ensure public institutions and entities with which they contract are compliant with any applicable Medicaid and CHIP requirements.

(3) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—A State shall not use funds from a grant awarded under this subsection to—

(A) provide medical assistance under a State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under a State CHIP to an individual, or otherwise directly administer health care services for an individual; or

(B) build prisons, jails, or other carceral facilities, or pay for prison, jail, or other carceral facility-related improvements other than those improvements that are for the direct and primary purpose of meeting the health care needs of individuals who are incarcerated and who are eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under the State CHIP.

(4) ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS.—In determining the amount of a grant to award to a State that applies for a grant under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider the following factors, relative to other States applying for grants under this subsection:

(A) The number of individuals in the State who were inmates of non-Federal public institutions (such as State prisons, local and county jails, tribal jails, and youth correctional or detention facilities) and were eligible for medical assistance under a State Medicaid program at any time in calendar year 2022.

(B) The number of non-Federal public institutions in the State (such as State prisons, local and county jails, tribal jails, and youth correctional or detention facilities).

(C) The State’s progress in developing, implementing, and operating initiatives to promote continuity of care for individuals who are inmates of a public institution and are

eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid program or are eligible for child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under the State CHIP (with favorable consideration given to States with less progress in promoting continuity of care for such individuals).

(5) APPROPRIATION.—There is appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2024, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$113,500,000, to remain available until expended, for the purposes of awarding and administering grants to States under this subsection.

(b) GUIDANCE TO SUPPORT STATE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue detailed guidance to States that addresses common implementation and operational challenges States face in ensuring access to authorized high-quality, timely, accessible care before, during, and after incarceration for individuals who are eligible for medical assistance under a State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under a State CHIP.

(2) CONTENT.—

(A) COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS.—The guidance required under paragraph (1) shall address challenges States face, or are likely to face, in complying with the requirement described in section 1902(a)(84)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(84)(A)) that a State shall not terminate eligibility for medical assistance, complying with the requirements of sections 1902(a)(84)(D) and 2102(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(84)(D), 1397bb(d)), adopting the State plan options described in the subdivision (A) following the last numbered paragraph of section 1905(a) and section 2110(b)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a), 1397jj(b)(7)), and carrying out other activities that are approved by the Secretary to promote continuity of care for individuals who are inmates of a public institution and are eligible for medical assistance under the State Medicaid program or are eligible for child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under the State CHIP.

(B) BEST PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES.—The guidance required under paragraph (1) shall include best practices and strategies States can use to address implementation and operational challenges related to the requirements described in subparagraph (A), including those related to the following:

(i) Implementing modifications to improve eligibility and enrollment processes, including, but not limited to, completing applications for assistance under the State Medicaid program or the State CHIP on behalf of inmates, transmitting such applications to State Medicaid and CHIP agencies, and screening individuals who are inmates of public institutions for eligibility for medical assistance that is authorized to be furnished to the individual while the individual is such an inmate.

(ii) Clarifying the availability of relevant Federal financial participation, including the administrative match under sections 1903 and 2105 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b, 1397ee), for activities that directly support efforts to identify and enroll eligible individuals in State Medicaid programs and State CHIPs and that directly support the provision of authorized medical assistance, child health assistance, or pregnancy-related assistance, including, but not limited to, data sharing and exchange, and other necessary functions.

(iii) Expediently conducting screening for eligibility under State Medicaid programs and State CHIPs for individuals who are inmates of a public institution, providing

application and renewal assistance for those who are not yet enrolled in such programs or whose eligibility needs to be renewed, and coordinating reinstatement of coverage under such programs with managed care enrollment.

(iv) Ensuring that an individual who is an inmate of a public institution and is eligible for medical assistance under a State Medicaid program or for child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under a State CHIP receives, in a timely fashion, any such assistance for which Federal financial participation is authorized, such as, a supply of medications or prescription refill upon release and the services required under sections 1902(a)(84)(D) and 2102(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(84)(D), 1397bb(d)).

(v) Establishing community-based provider networks, including those comprised of case managers, for purposes of providing continuity of care to individuals who are eligible for medical assistance under a State Medicaid program or child health assistance or pregnancy-related assistance under a State CHIP before, during, and after incarceration.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) PUBLIC INSTITUTION.—The term “public institution” has the meaning given that term in section 1902(nn)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(nn)(3)).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” has the meaning given that term in section 1101(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301(a)(1)) for purposes of titles XIX and XXI of such Act.

(4) STATE CHIP.—The term “State CHIP” means a State child health plan for child health assistance under title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.), and includes any waiver of such a plan.

(5) STATE MEDICAID PROGRAM.—The term “State Medicaid program” means a State plan for medical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), and includes any waiver of such a plan.

SEC. 207. GUIDANCE RELATING TO IMPROVING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE AND INTEGRATION OF CARE UNDER MEDICAID AND CHIP.

(a) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall issue guidance to States regarding the following:

(1) Opportunities to increase access to the mental health and substance use disorder care providers that participate in Medicaid or CHIP, which may include education, training, recruitment and retention of such providers, with a focus on improving the capacity of this workforce in rural and underserved areas by increasing the number, type, and capacity of providers. The guidance relating to such opportunities shall include the following:

(A) Best practices from States that have used authorities under titles XI, XIX, or XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq., 1396 et seq., 1397aa et seq.), including initiatives States have implemented under waivers under section 1115 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1315), for such purposes.

(B) Opportunities States can leverage to finance, support, and expand the availability of providers of community-based mental health and substance use disorder services who participate in Medicaid and CHIP across the continuum of care, including through the participation of paraprofessionals with behavioral health expertise, such as clinicians with baccalaureate degrees and peer support

specialists and including best practices especially pertinent to pediatric care. The guidance shall include examples of innovative policies States have adopted to expand access to behavioral health services; for example, by establishing more expansive and diverse behavioral health workforce roles such as certified wellness coaches.

(C) Best practices related to financing, supporting, and expanding the education and training of providers of mental health and substance use disorder services in order to increase the workforce of such providers who participate in Medicaid and CHIP across the continuum of care, including innovative public-private partnerships and including such practices that are especially pertinent to pediatric care.

(2) Opportunities to promote the integration of mental health or substance use disorder services with primary care services. The guidance relating to such opportunities shall include the following:

(A) An overview of State options for adopting and expanding value-based payment arrangements and alternative payment models, including accountable care organization-like models and other shared savings programs.

(B) A description of opportunities for States to use and align existing authorities and resources to finance the integration of mental health or substance use disorder services with primary care services, including with respect to the use of electronic health records in mental health care settings and in substance use disorder care settings.

(C) Strategies to support integration of mental health or substance use disorder services with primary care services through the use of non-clinical professionals and paraprofessionals, including peer support specialists.

(D) Examples of specific strategies and models designed to support integration of mental health or substance use disorder services with primary care services for differing age groups, including children and youth and individuals over the age of 65, which may include the collaborative care model or primary care behavioral health model for behavioral health integration.

(b) INTEGRATION OF MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES WITH PRIMARY CARE SERVICES.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), the term “integration of mental health or substance use disorder services with primary care services” means any of the following:

(1) The delivery of mental health or substance use disorder services in a setting that is physically located in the same practice or building as a primary care setting, or when at least 1 provider of mental health or substance use disorder services is available in a primary care setting via telehealth.

(2) The use of behavioral health integration models primarily intended for pediatric populations with non-severe mental health needs that are focused on prevention and early detection and intervention methods through a multidisciplinary collaborative behavioral health team approach co-managed with primary care, to include same-day access to family-focused mental health treatment services.

(3) Having providers of mental health or substance use disorder services physically co-located in a primary care setting with same-day visit availability.

(4) Implementing or maintaining enhanced care coordination or targeted case management which includes regular interactions between and within care teams.

(5) Providing mental health or substance use disorder screening and follow-up assessments, interventions, or services within the

same practice or facility as a primary care or physical service setting.

(6) The use of assertive community treatment that is integrated with or facilitated by a primary care practice.

(7) Delivery of integrated primary care and mental health care or substance use disorder care in the home or in community-based settings for individuals who are recipients of Medicaid home and community-based services.

SEC. 208. FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONS.

There is appropriated to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for fiscal year 2024, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to remain available until expended—

(1) \$5,000,000, for the purpose of carrying out section 203 and the amendments made by such section, and sections 206, and 207; and

(2) \$10,000,000 for the recurring collection, analysis, and publication of health care data under section 1948 of the Social Security Act, as added by section 202.

SEC. 209. CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC SERVICES UNDER MEDICAID.

(a) DEFINITION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (30), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (31) as paragraph (32); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (30) the following new paragraph:

“(31) certified community behavioral health clinic services, as defined in subsection (jj); and”;

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

“(jj) CERTIFIED COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC SERVICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘certified community behavioral health services’ means any of the following services when furnished to an individual as a patient of a certified community behavioral health clinic (as defined in paragraph (2)), in a manner reflecting person-centered care and which, if not available directly through a certified community behavioral health clinic, may be provided or referred through formal relationships with other providers:

“(A) Crisis mental health services, including 24-hour mobile crisis teams, emergency crisis intervention services, and crisis stabilization.

“(B) Screening, assessment, and diagnosis, including risk assessment.

“(C) Patient-centered treatment planning or similar processes, including risk assessment and crisis planning.

“(D) Outpatient mental health and substance use services.

“(E) Outpatient clinic primary care screening and monitoring of key health indicators and health risk.

“(F) Intensive case management services.

“(G) Psychiatric rehabilitation services.

“(H) Peer support and counselor services and family supports.

“(I) Intensive, community-based mental health care for members of the armed forces and veterans who are eligible for medical assistance, particularly such members and veterans located in rural areas, provided the care is consistent with minimum clinical mental health guidelines promulgated by the Veterans Health Administration, including clinical guidelines contained in the Uniform Mental Health Services Handbook of such Administration.

on which the President has transmitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives—

(1) the agreement to amend, change, or terminate the subsidiary agreement;

(2) an explanation of the amendment, change, or termination;

(3) a description of the reasons for the amendment, change, or termination; and

(4) in the case of an agreement that would amend, change, or terminate any agreement described in section 462(b)(3) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact or the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, a statement by the Secretary of Labor that describes—

(A) the necessity of the amendment, change, or termination; and

(B) any impacts of the amendment, change, or termination.

SEC. 205. AGREEMENTS WITH FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.

(a) LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to sections 222 and 224 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, the United States shall provide nonreimbursable technical and training assistance, as appropriate, including training and equipment for postal inspection of illicit drugs and other contraband, to enable the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia—

(A) to develop and adequately enforce laws of the Federated States of Micronesia; and

(B) to cooperate with the United States in the enforcement of criminal laws of the United States.

(2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (j) of section 105 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d) (as amended by section 209(j)) may be used in accordance with section 102(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921a(a)).

(b) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States appointees (which are composed of the United States chair and 2 other members from the Government of the United States) to the Joint Economic Management Committee established under section 213 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact (referred to in this subsection as the “Committee”) shall—

(A) be voting members of the Committee; and

(B) continue to be officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United States members of the Committee described in paragraph (1) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years as follows:

(A) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury.

(B) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury.

(C) 1 member shall be appointed by the Interagency Group on Freely Associated States established under section 208(d)(1).

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional 2-year terms.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2 United States members of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) shall be individuals who—

(A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially qualified in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant administration, program management, or international economics; and

(B) possess not less than 5 years of full-time experience in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant adminis-

tration, program management, or international economics.

(5) NOTICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of appointment of a United States member of the Committee under paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress that an individual has been appointed as a voting member of the Committee under that paragraph, including a statement prepared by the Secretary of the Interior attesting to the qualifications of the member described in paragraph (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a statement required under subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of State on request of the Secretary of the Interior; and

(ii) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Interagency Group on Freely Associated States established under section 208(d)(1) on request of the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Committee receives or completes any report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia submits to the Committee a report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

(c) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT TRUST FUND COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States voting members (which are composed of the United States chair and 2 other members from the Government of the United States) to the Joint Trust Fund Committee established pursuant to the agreement described in section 462(b)(5) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact (referred to in this subsection as the “Committee”) shall continue to be officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United States members of the Committee described in paragraph (1) shall be appointed for a term not more than 2 years as follows:

(A) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of State.

(B) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior.

(C) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional 2-year terms.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2 members of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) shall be individuals who—

(A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially qualified in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial investment, grant administration,

program management, or international economics; and

(B) possess not less than 5 years of full-time experience in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial investment, grant administration, program management, or international economics.

(5) NOTICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of appointment of a United States member to the Committee under paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress that an individual has been appointed as a voting member of the Committee under that paragraph, including a statement attesting to the qualifications of the member described in paragraph (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a statement required under subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of State on request of the Secretary of the Interior; and

(ii) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of the Treasury on request of the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Committee receives or completes any report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia submits to the Committee a report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

SEC. 206. AGREEMENTS WITH AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

(a) LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to sections 222 and 224 of the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, the United States shall provide nonreimbursable technical and training assistance, as appropriate, including training and equipment for postal inspection of illicit drugs and other contraband, to enable the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands—

(A) to develop and adequately enforce laws of the Marshall Islands; and

(B) to cooperate with the United States in the enforcement of criminal laws of the United States.

(2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Funds appropriated pursuant to subsection (j) of section 105 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d) (as amended by section 209(j)) may be used in accordance with section 103(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(a)).

(b) ESPOUSAL PROVISIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Congress reaffirms that—

(A) section 103(g)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(g)(1)) and section 103(e)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48

U.S.C. 1921b(e)(1)) provided that “It is the intention of the Congress of the United States that the provisions of section 177 of the Compact of Free Association and the Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Marshall Islands for the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the ‘Section 177 Agreement’) constitute a full and final settlement of all claims described in Articles X and XI of the Section 177 Agreement, and that any such claims be terminated and barred except insofar as provided for in the Section 177 Agreement.”; and

(B) section 103(g)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(g)(2)) and section 103(e)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(e)(2)) provided that “In furtherance of the intention of Congress as stated in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Section 177 Agreement is hereby ratified and approved. It is the explicit understanding and intent of Congress that the jurisdictional limitations set forth in Article XII of such Agreement are enacted solely and exclusively to accomplish the objective of Article X of such Agreement and only as a clarification of the effect of Article X, and are not to be construed or implemented separately from Article X.”

(2) EFFECT.—Nothing in the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact affects the application of the provisions of law reaffirmed by paragraph (1).

(c) CERTAIN SECTION 177 AGREEMENT PROVISIONS.—Congress reaffirms that—

(1) Article IX of the Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Marshall Islands for the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact of Free Association, done at Majuro June 25, 1983, provided that “If loss or damage to property and person of the citizens of the Marshall Islands, resulting from the Nuclear Testing Program, arises or is discovered after the effective date of this Agreement, and such injuries were not and could not reasonably have been identified as of the effective date of this Agreement, and if such injuries render the provisions of this Agreement manifestly inadequate, the Government of the Marshall Islands may request that the Government of the United States provide for such injuries by submitting such a request to the Congress of the United States for its consideration. It is understood that this Article does not commit the Congress of the United States to authorize and appropriate funds.”; and

(2) section 3(a) of Article XIII of the agreement described in paragraph (1) provided that “The Government of the United States and the Government of the Marshall Islands shall consult at the request of either of them on matters relating to the provisions of this Agreement.”

(d) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO JOINT ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The 2 United States appointees (which are composed of the United States chair and 1 other member from the Government of the United States) to the Joint Economic Management and Financial Accountability Committee established under section 214 of the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact (referred to in this subsection as the “Committee”) shall—

(A) be voting members of the Committee; and

(B) continue to be officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 2 United States members of the Committee described in paragraph (1) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years as follows:

(A) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury.

(B) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional 2-year terms.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS.—At least 1 United States member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) shall be an individual who—

(A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, is especially qualified in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant administration, program management, or international economics; and

(B) possesses not less than 5 years of full-time experience in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, grant administration, program management, or international economics.

(5) NOTICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of appointment of a United States member under paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress that an individual has been appointed as a voting member of the Committee under that paragraph, including a statement attesting to the qualifications of the member described in paragraph (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a statement required under subparagraph (A), in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of State on request of the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Committee receives or completes any report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands submits to the Committee a report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

(e) UNITED STATES APPOINTEES TO TRUST FUND COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The 3 United States voting members (which are composed of the United States chair and 2 other members from the Government of the United States) to the Trust Fund Committee established pursuant to the agreement described in section 462(b)(5) of the 2003 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact (referred to in this subsection as the “Committee”) shall continue to be officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(2) TERM; APPOINTMENT.—The 3 United States members of the Committee described in paragraph (1) shall be appointed for a term not more than 5 years as follows:

(A) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of State.

(B) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior.

(C) 1 member shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) REAPPOINTMENT.—A United States member of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) may be reappointed for not more than 2 additional 2-year terms.

(4) QUALIFICATIONS.—Not fewer than 2 members of the Committee appointed under paragraph (2) shall be individuals who—

(A) by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially qualified in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial investment, grant administration, program management, or international economics; and

(B) possess not less than 5 years of full-time experience in accounting, auditing, budget analysis, compliance, financial investment, grant administration, program management, or international economics.

(5) NOTICE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of appointment of a United States Member under paragraph (2), the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress that an individual has been appointed as a voting member of the Committee under that paragraph, including a statement attesting to the qualifications of the appointee described in paragraph (4), subject to subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of a statement required under subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(A), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of State on request of the Secretary of the Interior; and

(ii) in the case of a member appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary of the Interior shall compile information on the member provided to the Secretary of the Interior by the Secretary of the Treasury on request of the Secretary of the Interior.

(6) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Committee receives or completes any report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(7) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands submits to the Committee a report required under the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

(f) FOUR ATOLL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.—Congress reaffirms that—

(1) section 103(j)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(1)) and section 103(h)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(h)(1)) provided that services “provided by the United States Public Health Service or any other United States agency pursuant to section 1(a) of Article II of the Agreement for the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the ‘Section 177 Agreement’) shall be only for services to the people of the Atolls of Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik who were affected by the consequences of the United States nuclear testing program, pursuant to the program described in Public Law 95-134 and Public Law 96-205 and their descendants (and any other persons identified as having been so affected if such identification occurs in the manner described in such public laws).

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as prejudicial to the views or policies of the Government of the Marshall Islands as to the persons affected by the consequences of the United States nuclear testing program.”;

(2) section 103(j)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(2)) and section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(h)(2)) provided that “at the end of the first year after the effective date of the Compact and at the end of each year thereafter, the providing agency or agencies shall return to the Government of the Marshall Islands any unexpended funds to be returned to the Fund Manager (as described in Article I of the Section 177 Agreement) to be covered into the Fund to be available for future use.”; and

(3) section 103(j)(3) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(j)(3)) and section 103(h)(3) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(h)(3)) provided that “the Fund Manager shall retain the funds returned by the Government of the Marshall Islands pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall invest and manage such funds, and at the end of 15 years after the effective date of the Compact, shall make from the total amount so retained and the proceeds thereof annual disbursements sufficient to continue to make payments for the provision of health services as specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection to such extent as may be provided in contracts between the Government of the Marshall Islands and appropriate United States providers of such health services.”;

(g) **RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on the request of the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the President (through an appropriate department or agency of the United States) shall continue to provide special medical care and logistical support for the remaining members of the population of Rongelap and Utrik who were exposed to radiation resulting from the 1954 United States thermonuclear “Bravo” test, pursuant to Public Law 95-134 (91 Stat. 1159) and Public Law 96-205 (94 Stat. 84).

(h) **AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD PROGRAMS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Congress reaffirms that—

(A) section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(h)(2)) and section 103(f)(2)(A) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(2)(A)) provided that notwithstanding “any other provision of law, upon the request of the Government of the Marshall Islands, for the first fifteen years after the effective date of the Compact, the President (either through an appropriate department or agency of the United States or by contract with a United States firm or by a grant to the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands which may further contract only with a United States firm or a Republic of the Marshall Islands firm, the owners, officers and majority of the employees of which are citizens of the United States or the Republic of the Marshall Islands) shall provide technical and other assistance without reimbursement, to continue the planting and agricultural maintenance program on Enewetak; without reimbursement, to continue the food programs of the Bikini, Rongelap, Utrik, and Enewetak people described in section 1(d) of Article II of the Subsidiary Agreement for the Implementation of Section 177 of the Compact and for continued waterborne transportation of agricultural products to Enewetak including operations and maintenance of the vessel used for such purposes.”;

(B) section 103(h)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(h)(2))

and section 103(f)(2)(B) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(2)(B)) provided that “The President shall ensure the assistance provided under these programs reflects the changes in the population since the inception of such programs.”; and

(C) section 103(h)(3) of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (48 U.S.C. 1903(h)(3)) and section 103(f)(3) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(3)) provided that “payments under this subsection shall be provided to such extent or in such amounts as are necessary for services and other assistance provided pursuant to this subsection. It is the sense of Congress that after the periods of time specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, consideration will be given to such additional funding for these programs as may be necessary.”;

(2) **PLANTING AND AGRICULTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of the Interior may provide grants to the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to carry out a planting and agricultural maintenance program on Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap, and Utrik.

(3) **FOOD PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary of Agriculture may provide, without reimbursement, food programs to the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

SEC. 207. AGREEMENTS WITH AND OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU.

(a) **BILATERAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS.**—United States participation in the annual economic consultations referred to in Article 8 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement shall be by officers or employees of the Federal Government.

(b) **ECONOMIC ADVISORY GROUP.**—

(1) **QUALIFICATIONS.**—A member of the Economic Advisory Group described in Article 7 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement (referred to in this subsection as the “Advisory Group”) who is appointed by the Secretary of the Interior shall be an individual who, by reason of knowledge, experience, or training, is especially qualified in private sector business development, economic development, or national development.

(2) **FUNDS.**—With respect to the Advisory Group, the Secretary of the Interior may use available funds for—

(A) the costs of the 2 members of the Advisory Group designated by the United States in accordance with Article 7 of the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement;

(B) 50 percent of the costs of the 5th member of the Advisory Group designated by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Article described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) the costs of—

(i) technical and administrative assistance for the Advisory Group; and

(ii) other support necessary for the Advisory Group to accomplish the purpose of the Advisory Group.

(3) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Advisory Group receives or completes any report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(c) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of Palau completes any report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(2) **NOTICE TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Government of the Republic of Palau submits a report required under the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, or any related subsidiary agreement, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) if the report is submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice attesting that the report is complete and accurate; or

(B) if the report is not submitted by the applicable deadline, written notice that the report has not been timely submitted.

SEC. 208. OVERSIGHT PROVISIONS.

(a) **AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES OF THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the United States (including any duly authorized representative of the Comptroller General of the United States) shall have the authorities necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Comptroller General of the United States under—

(A) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact and related subsidiary agreements, including the authorities and privileges described in section 102(b) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921a(b));

(B) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact and related subsidiary agreements, including the authorities and privileges described in section 103(k) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(k)); and

(C) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement, related subsidiary agreements, and the authorities described in appendix D of the “Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau Following the Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review” signed by the United States and the Republic of Palau on September 3, 2010.

(2) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 4 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report with respect to the Freely Associated States, including addressing—

(A) the topics described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of section 104(h)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921c(h)(1)), except that for purposes of a report submitted under this paragraph, the report shall address those topics with respect to each of the Freely Associated States; and

(B) the effectiveness of administrative oversight by the United States of the Freely Associated States.

(b) **SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of the Interior shall have the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for monitoring and managing the funds appropriated to the Compact of Free Association account of the Department of the Interior by section 211(a) to carry out—

(1) the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

(2) the 2023 Amended U.S.-RMI Compact;

(3) the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement; and

(4) subsidiary agreements.

(c) **POSTMASTER GENERAL OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY.**—The Postmaster General shall have the authority necessary to fulfill the responsibilities for monitoring and managing the funds appropriated to the United States Postal Service under paragraph (1) of section 211(b) and deposited in the Postal Service Fund under paragraph (2)(A) of that section to carry out—

(1) section 221(a)(2) of the 2023 Amended U.S.-FSM Compact;

“(ii) publish that determination and the reasons for that determination in the Federal Register.

“(5) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated States’ means—

“(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

“(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

“(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution entitled ‘Joint Resolution to approve the “Compact of Free Association” between the United States and the Government of Palau, and for other purposes’ (Public Law 99-658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).”

(3) BENEFICIARY TRAVEL.—Section 111 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may make payments to or for any person traveling in, to, or from the Freely Associated States for receipt of care or services authorized to be legally provided by the Secretary in the Freely Associated States under section 1724(f)(1) of this title.

“(2) A person who has received payment for travel in a country pursuant to this subsection shall remain eligible for payment for such travel in that country regardless of whether the country continues to qualify as a Freely Associated State for purposes of this subsection.

“(3) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out this subsection.

“(4) In this subsection, the term ‘Freely Associated States’ means—

“(A) the Federated States of Micronesia, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note);

“(B) the Republic of the Marshall Islands, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association set forth in section 201 of the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239; 48 U.S.C. 1901 note); and

“(C) the Republic of Palau, during such time as it is a party to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Government of Palau set forth in section 201 of Joint Resolution entitled ‘Joint Resolution to approve the “Compact of Free Association” between the United States and the Government of Palau, and for other purposes’ (Public Law 99-658; 48 U.S.C. 1931 note).”

(4) LEGAL ISSUES.—

(A) AGREEMENTS TO FURNISH CARE AND SERVICES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Before delivering hospital care or medical services under subsection (f) of section 1724 of title 38, United States Code, as added by paragraph (2)(B), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall enter into agreements with the governments of the Freely Associated States to—

(I) facilitate the furnishing of health services, including telehealth, under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans in the Freely Associated States, such as by addressing—

(aa) licensure, certification, registration, and tort issues relating to health care personnel;

(bb) the scope of health services the Secretary may furnish, as well as the means for furnishing such services; and

(cc) matters relating to delivery of pharmaceutical products and medical surgical products, including delivery of such products through the Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to the Freely Associated States;

(II) clarify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay for tort claims as set forth under subparagraph (C); and

(III) clarify authority and responsibility on any other matters determined relevant by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs or the governments of the Freely Associated States.

(ii) SCOPE OF AGREEMENTS.—The agreements described in clause (i) shall incorporate, to the extent practicable, the applicable laws of the Freely Associated States and define the care and services that can be legally provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the Freely Associated States.

(iii) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after entering into an agreement described in clause (i), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit the agreement to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(II) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this clause, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(aa) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and

(bb) the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(B) LICENSURE OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS PROVIDING TREATMENT VIA TELEMEDICINE IN THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—Section 1730C(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “any State” and inserting “any State or any of the Freely Associated States (as defined in section 1724(f) of this title).”

(C) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may pay tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in the Freely Associated States in connection with furnishing hospital care or medical services or providing medical consultation or medical advice to a veteran under the laws administered by the Secretary, including through a remote or telehealth program.

(5) OUTREACH AND ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, subject to the availability of appropriations—

(A) conduct robust outreach to, and engage with, each government of the Freely Associated States;

(B) assess options for the delivery of care through the use of authorities provided pursuant to the amendments made by this subsection; and

(C) increase staffing as necessary to conduct outreach under subparagraph (A).

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS.—

(1) ELIGIBILITY.—For fiscal year 2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Government of the United States shall—

(A) continue to make available to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, grants for services to individuals eligible for such services under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20

U.S.C. 1411 et seq.) to the extent that those services continue to be available to individuals in the United States;

(B) continue to make available to the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands and make available to the Republic of Palau, competitive grants under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), and part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1450 et seq.), to the extent that those grants continue to be available to State and local governments in the United States;

(C) continue to make grants available to the Republic of Palau under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (29 U.S.C. 3271 et seq.), and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

(D) continue to make available to eligible institutions of higher education in the Republic of Palau and make available to eligible institutions of higher education in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands and to students enrolled in those institutions of higher education, and to students who are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau and enrolled in institutions of higher education in the United States and territories of the United States, grants under—

(i) subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a et seq.);

(ii) subpart 3 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070b et seq.); and

(iii) part C of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087-51 et seq.);

(E) require, as a condition of eligibility for a public institution of higher education in any State (as defined in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003)) that is not a Freely Associated State to participate in or receive funds under any program under title IV of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.), that the institution charge students who are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau tuition for attendance at a rate that is not greater than the rate charged for residents of the State in which such public institution of higher education is located; and

(F) continue to make available, to eligible institutions of higher education, secondary schools, and nonprofit organizations in the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, competitive grants under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

(2) OTHER FORMULA GRANTS.—Except as provided in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Education shall not make a grant under any formula grant program administered by the Department of Education to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau.

(3) GRANTS TO THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES UNDER PART B OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.—Section 611(b)(1) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411(b)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) FUNDS RESERVED.—From the amount appropriated for any fiscal year under subsection (i), the Secretary shall reserve not more than 1 percent, which shall be used as follows:

to the measure before us. I am anguished over it for one simple reason: Veterans' lives are on the line.

I have the greatest respect for my colleague, the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, and I know it was a difficult road to get to this point. I also appreciate the work of our Democratic leader to try and find consensus. There are many good things in this bill, things that will benefit everyday Americans, but as ranking member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, this bill comes at the expense of our most vulnerable veterans and, therefore, I cannot support it.

However, I will be clear that I am not asking my colleagues to oppose the bill.

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

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the chairman of the Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee and dean of the House of Representatives.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, I rise in support of the appropriations act that we are considering today.

The fiscal situation facing the Nation requires Congress to make significant spending reductions while maintaining strong commitments to the safety, security, and well-being of the American people.

After tough but fair bipartisan negotiations, we have produced a strong bill that prioritizes everyday Americans while rightsizing the bureaucracy.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, many agencies with important missions face reductions under this legislation. We believe it is important to reverse the out-of-control growth of the Federal Government and that is reflected in this agreement.

The CJS bill scales back spending by holding most agencies to '23 levels or lower. Agencies must refocus on their core missions and responsibilities.

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Despite limited resources, we maintain robust funding that prioritizes the fight against fentanyl, support for local law enforcement, and efforts to counter China by supporting innovation, space exploration, and scientific research.

We do this while also utilizing the power of the purse to address the weaponization of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the overreach of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. To that end, the FBI and ATF will be receiving less money than last year.

In addition, the CJS bill contains two new policy riders to protect the American people. One prohibits the Department of Justice from targeting parents who exercise their right to free speech

at local school board meetings. The other prohibits the Department of Justice from investigating churches on the basis of their religious beliefs.

The bill supports local law enforcement by including critical funding for Byrne Justice grants and COPS hiring grants.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. This assistance will help empower our local police departments and ensure they have the resources they need to safeguard our neighborhoods. Law enforcement plays an important role in the well-being of every American in every congressional district. Passage of this bill today sends a strong message: We have their backs.

In closing, I thank Chairwoman GRANGER for being a trouper in tough circumstances and has done a wonderful job. I congratulate her. I also thank the subcommittee ranking member, Mr. CARTWRIGHT. He has been a valued partner and colleague in this effort. I also thank all the members of the subcommittee for their help and assistance, as well as Ranking Member DELAURO.

This legislation is a product of good-faith, bipartisan negotiations. It is a win for the American people. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation, which provides funding for domestic programs that curb the rising cost of living, create higher-paying jobs, confront the climate crisis, honor our commitments to America's veterans, and protect women's rights.

In a divided country, I am pleased that Democrats and Republicans in the House and in the Senate united and produced this legislation to make government work for the people. Democrats are doing what we always do: put people over politics, follow the law, and reach a bipartisan compromise to grow the middle class and to deliver for the American people.

This bill includes a billion dollars to fully fund the Women, Infants, and Children program. It prevents 5 million people from losing their housing. It increases our investments in our infrastructure and creates jobs. It restores funding for rail and transit systems.

These funding bills, the product of bipartisan negotiations, help keep our communities safe and healthy. We are keeping government open, protecting the people in need, and moving our country forward.

This legislation does not have everything either side may have wanted, but I am pleased that many of the extreme cuts in policies proposed by House Re-

publicans were excluded. House Democrats rejected outright their archaic restriction on women's reproductive healthcare.

I am proud that this bill protects the progress we previously made to reverse underinvestment in domestic programs that empower and protect middle-class families.

To help Americans contending with an elevated cost of living, this bill fights inflation and fully supports key lifelines such as food assistance, ensuring people in this great country of ours do not go hungry.

Mr. Speaker, I urge swift passage of this package, and I look forward to finalizing and passing the remaining 2024 funding bills in due time.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), the chairman of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024.

I commend Chairwoman GRANGER for her leadership of the Appropriations Committee and for getting the first six bills across the finish line. I also thank the Interior Subcommittee Ranking Member PINGREE for her partnership on this bill.

Together, we have negotiated a reasonable compromise to avoid a government shutdown that fails to respond to our Nation's needs and maintain our public lands.

The Interior and Environment division provides nondefense top-line resources totaling \$38.9 billion, nearly 4 percent below the FY 2023 level.

Cutting funding is never easy, but with the national debt in excess of \$34 trillion, we make tough choices in this bill to rein in Federal spending. Last Congress alone, \$3 trillion was spent outside the normal appropriation process. That is 3 trillion additional dollars. As I have said repeatedly, simply holding funding flat is not enough. We must curb out-of-control spending and get our budget back on track. I am pleased that this bill does that and leads us in the right direction.

We reduced funding across most agencies and bureaus, and the Environmental Protection Agency is cut by nearly 10 percent.

Despite the reduced allocation, the bill provides an additional \$34 million for healthcare, law enforcement, and related programs across Indian Country, and for the Indian Health Service, the bill continues advance appropriations, totaling \$5.2 billion. The advance appropriation is a program that was started by Ranking Member PINGREE when she was chairman of this committee, and we have continued that.

The bill also fully funds the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program. Let me explain that that program is vitally important to public land States. Because we can't collect taxes on Federal lands within those States, this is supposed to make up for the taxes that would come

from those lands if they were held in private lands. This is vitally important to public land States. It is not enough, but we fully funded it in this program.

It also provides an additional \$260 million to maintain wildland firefighter pay without irresponsible budget gimmicks.

In terms of policy, the bill maintains longstanding legacy riders to prevent the ESA listing of sage-grouse and to exempt farmers and livestock producers from burdensome greenhouse gas permitting requirements.

The bill bolsters our energy independence by encouraging domestic production of critical and rare earth minerals and rejects administration proposals to increase offshore energy inspection fees and authorize onshore inspection fees.

For my constituents in Idaho, I am especially pleased that the bill blocks the Lava Ridge Wind Project until the Secretary of the Interior analyzes, in consultation with local officials and stakeholders, and they look at alternate plans to reduce the harmful impacts of this project.

In closing, I thank all the Members for their work on this bill. It is hard to reduce spending, yet we have been able to do that. I congratulate the staff on both sides of the aisle who worked very hard on this. While we were home, they were here working on this bill all night long. I include the staff on the other side of the rotunda. These bills are hard to compromise on, but we were able to get it done.

It represents a fair compromise that allows us to meet the spending levels agreed to in the Fiscal Responsibility Act and manage our public lands. I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on this piece of legislation.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the distinguished ranking member of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill.

The fiscal year 2024 Energy and Water bill ushers in new horizons for jobs and progress for our region and Nation. Our bill assures investments in modernized energy production, vital water infrastructure, and nuclear national security, all essential for American independence inside our borders.

This bipartisan Energy and Water bill funds the U.S. Department of Energy, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, and regional commissions and authorities impacting every corner of our Nation. This includes the Appalachian, Delta, Denali, Northern Border, Southeast Crescent, Southwest Border, and the Great Lakes.

U.S. energy independence in perpetuity is our consistent, paramount, strategic goal, and each year our Nation makes significant progress toward it.

This bill also assures that our Nation’s nuclear security assets, includ-

ing the nuclear Navy, are modern and ready, both as a deterrent and to safeguard our national security. With Vladimir Putin’s recent reckless threats about launching nuclear weapons in Europe and former President Donald Trump’s appeasing reaction, this bill is needed as an affirmation of American will to protect and defend our people and assure our Nation’s security posture against all enemies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill. I thank our able chair, CHARLES FLEISCHMANN, for his dutiful and responsible service to our Nation.

I include in the RECORD this Proposal for the 2024 Energy and Water bill.

Proposal: A Great Lakes Authority

For the consideration of: Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President, United States of America. From: Rep. MARCY KAPTUR (D-OH), Co-Chair, Great Lakes Task Force; Rep. DEBBIE DINGELL (D-MI), Co-Chair, Great Lakes Task Force; Rep. PAUL TONKO (D-NY), Chair, Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee; Rep. BOBBY BUSH (D-IL), Chair, Energy Subcommittee; Rep. HALEY STEVENS (D-MI), Co-Chair, House Manufacturing Task Force

1. SUMMARY

The eight states that comprise the U.S. portion of the Great Lakes watershed contain the core of America’s commercial and defense industrial base.

The Department of Homeland Security defines these industries as “America’s Critical Manufacturing Sector”. Failure or disruption within these industries would result in cascading disruptions in other critical sectors of the economy, in multiple regions, and have significant national economic impact.

This existing industrial base contains the nation’s largest pool of skilled and experienced production workers. The Region has an almost inexhaustible supply of fresh water. These 8 States do 25 percent of all U.S. trade with Canada, which is this nation’s largest export market. In 2020, Canada imported more than \$255 billion of U.S. goods and services.

This base provides a solid foundation for creating a unique 21st Century regional development strategy—one that can enable the United States to (1) build back its manufacturing base, (2) create millions of new and better jobs within the Region, and (3) restore an assured, U.S. defense industrial sector and a resilient energy platform sufficient to power U.S.-based production.

Franklin D. Roosevelt created the model for such a strategy in 1933 with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)—a unique institution brought into being to control the raging waters of the 3 Tennessee River, provide low-cost electricity, and advance the economic development of the under-invested seven states in that Basin.

Our times require a 21st Century version of such an Authority in the Great Lakes Region—one that can protect and wisely use the fresh waters of the Great Lakes, build back better the Region’s economy and be a necessary exemplar for climate change remediation.

The GLA’s mission would be to:

Restore and protect America’s principal source of fresh water.

Foster innovation, commercialize it, and by that create more and better jobs.

Strengthen and expand the core U.S. manufacturing and defense industrial jobs base, and the required energy systems to sustain/power production.

Create world-class worker education, training and adjustment institutions.

Work with the Government and Provinces of Canada on our mutual Great Lakes challenges including the Great Lakes–Saint Lawrence Seaway Corporation.

The Chair of the Great Lakes Authority would be a Cabinet level official appointed by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The Chair would represent the U.S. Government. A five person board lead by the Chair would be joined by four bipartisan board members appointed by the U.S. House and Senate leadership.

The GLA would be governed by a five-person, bipartisan Board, each of whom serves for a five-year term. The Chair would be a Cabinet level official appointed by the President, confirmed by the U.S. Senate and be a full-time position. The other four members of the Board would be appointed by the Majority and Minority Leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Each would be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Eligible appointees would be limited to residents of the Region who are currently active as a corporate manufacturing CEO, head of a major financial institution, President of a Land Grant University, or CEO of a major distribution company. These four positions would be part-time and compensated as is normal with private corporations.

The Great Lakes Authority would be funded by the same ways and means as was, and is now, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and include both federally appropriated funds and revenues generated by GLA projects, with the same annual financing similar to that of the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Great Lakes Authority would be authorized and funded to:

Create and administer a regional infrastructure bank that could finance domestic civil works that have a dedicated revenue stream such as water and wastewater systems,

Create and finance other domestic civil works from appropriated funds,

Create and operate a business development fund to assist in the establishment and expansion of regional-based manufacturers,

Create university-based research, development, and technical consortiums,

Create the 18th National Laboratory, with satellites as necessary in GLA states, and dedicate it to advancing applied science, the manufacturing arts, and the commercialization of advanced technology products,

Create a patent hub that will aggressively invest and develop new clean energy inventions, technologies and industries, and

Create and fund world-class remedial, transition and advanced education and training institutions and programs that invest in the workers of the Region.

The United States has long dealt with regional challenges with regional solutions. The TVA is an example. The purpose of this proposal is to outline why a Great Lakes Authority is needed and identify how it can make a major contribution to building back better this vital region of the United States.

Today, alone of the U.S.’s major economic regions, the Great Lakes states do not have such a vital development institution.

2. THE CHALLENGE

Manufacturing and Job Losses:

The United States has closed 91,000 factories and lost 5 million manufacturing jobs since NAFTA was enacted in 1993 and China joined the World Trade Organization in 2000. The 8-state Great Lakes Region lost 1.5 millions of those jobs—that is, 30 percent. Many of the Region’s people were unable to adapt and have responded with addiction, suicide, conspiracy fantasies, and political radicalization

Weakened Finances:

These losses of factories and jobs, in turn, have greatly weakened the fiscal capacity of the Region's state and local governments. A measure of this fiscal crisis is found in the high municipal indebtedness of the Region's cities. Detroit and Cleveland each have a municipal bonded indebtedness of more than two billion dollars. Toledo owes \$1.6 billion and Milwaukee almost \$1.4 billion. Faced with the high costs of operation, repairs, rehabilitation and replacement, coupled with unavoidable federal mandates that come with only 50 percent funding, these municipalities are forced to increase utility rates on customers who are already in economic trouble.

The On-Going Great Lakes Ecological Catastrophe:

The Region's five Great Lakes—Erie, Huron, Michigan, Ontario, and Superior—are the source of 21 percent of the world's surface freshwater and 84 percent of North America's. These Lakes undergird life, work and recreation for tens of millions of people. Yet, before our eyes they are succumbing to an ecological disaster of epic proportions.

Dan Egan in *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes Writes*: The Great Lakes are now home to 186 non-native species. None has been more devastating than the Junior Mint-sized zebra and quagga mussels . . . leaving trillions upon trillions of filter-feeding quagga mussels sucking the life out of the lake itself . . . native fish populations have been decimated. Bird-killing botulism outbreaks plague lakeshores. Poisonous algae slick capable of shutting down public water supplies have become a routine summertime threat. A virus that causes deadly hemorrhaging in dozens of species of fish, dubbed by some scientists the "fish Ebola" has become endemic in the lakes and threatens to spread across the continent. Yet, invasive species are only one of many threats to what in fact is the largest inland sea in the world. Researchers at the Universities of Wisconsin and Michigan have created a "threat map" that analyzes 34 distinct threats that affect these five lakes. The composite stresses include not only invasive species but also toxic algae, erosion, development, waste plastics and toxic pollutants among other sources.

Cumulative Stress in the Great Lakes Today:

The state and local governments of the region are themselves so economically strapped that they are fiscally incapable of making the remediations that the Lakes require. Major fiscal help and institutional leadership from the Federal Government is essential if this ecological catastrophe is to be stopped and then reversed. Innovation—Regarding innovation in the Great Lakes region, a telling measure of the region's innovation decline is found by comparing whether these eight states have kept pace with the rest of the United States in devising inventions that are sufficiently new, non-obvious and useful that inventors and companies file and receive a patent from the United States Patent Office (USPTO).

The Great Lakes states have not kept pace with innovation. Specifically, in 1990, 51,000 U.S. patents were issued and in 2020 the USPTO granted 188,000—an increase of 265 percent. 8 In 2020, California residents were granted 571 percent more patents than they were in 1990. Oregon residents got 553 percent more. Washington State residents were awarded a whopping 901 percent more. Not a single Great Lake State even reached the national average by 2020. All fell behind the pace of U.S. invention.

The Nuclear Power Issue:

Heavy power demands across the region require a dependable baseload energy supply with a highly skilled workforce.

Today, the Region has 17 nuclear reactors at 15 sites in operation. Nuclear power provides 15 percent of the electricity for Ohio and Wisconsin, 23 percent for Minnesota, 29 percent for Michigan, 33 percent for New York, 41 percent for Pennsylvania, and 53 percent for Illinois. Competition pressures from massive, new natural gas supplies have created financial pressures that make nuclear power more expensive. These zero net carbon nuclear plants have become financially uncompetitive. Yet, thousands of companies and hundreds of thousands of workers depend on this nuclear base load.

For the foreseeable future, nuclear energy must be a key segment of electricity generation or neither economic development nor climate change goals can be attained. Ways are means are required to extend the operation of these nuclear facilities and, working with all stakeholders, increase electric production beyond what private enterprise appears to be able to facilitate in a quickly changing and uncertain market.

The Brookings Study:

A decade ago, the Great Recession and the collapse of the U.S. auto industry highlighted the manufacturing decline in the Region. Regional leaders engaged the Brookings Institute to help identify a consensus among private-sector and public stakeholders as to what to do to create the next economy. The result was a report: "The Next Economy: Economic Recovery and Transformation in the Great Lakes Region."

The report called for the federal, state, metropolitan leaders to join with the private and philanthropic sectors to:

Invest in the assets that matter—innovation, infrastructure and human capital.

Devise new public-private institutions that are market-oriented and performance-driven, Reimagine metros' form and governance structures to set the right conditions for economic growth.

The report was issued in September 2010. The unstated expectation was that the report and leadership consensus would guide the Obama Administration's second round of recovery actions post-2010. It never happened. In November 2010, control of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives changed. What happened next is that the U.S. devolved into ten years of national political gridlock. Neither the state, nor local governments, nor the industries, nor the companies, nor the people of the region could meet the magnitude of this challenge alone. Nor could they form a joint regional strategy because there was no regional institution through which the leaders of the Region could define, advocate and create such a truly regional strategy.

What the Great Lakes Region needed then, and needs even more now, is a 21st Century Great Lakes Authority—an institution that can help the Region innovate, create jobs and confront the compounding environmental and climate challenges. This proposed Great Lakes Authority can be that Institution. By its structure, focus, coherence, funding and leadership it can help the Region and nation envision, implement and sustain an aggressive Great Lakes strategic development agenda.

This proposed Authority can be an institutional anchor to aid the Region to sustain a long-term effort through the storms, calms and vagaries of national policy making.

A Great Lakes Authority:

The United States has always supported regional solutions to regional development and regional challenges. The principal of these efforts is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, which traces its roots to 1812 and was formed, in part, to serve arid parts of the nation with regional water resources and power generation.

Then, in 1933 during the economic depression, FDR created the 7-state TVA. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson created the 13-state Appalachian Regional Commission. Their successors have created regional commissions in other parts of the U.S. These regional instrumentalities were created to strengthen the economies of these Regions and help those states achieve economic equality with the rest of the Nation. Additional regional efforts have been proposed in other states. Two of these Regional Commissions (Delta and Northern Border) have been provided miniscule funding.

The Southeast Crescent Region and Southwest Border Regional Commissions have not been activated. Strikingly, the Great Lakes Region has neither a Regional Authority, such as TVA, nor even a lesser-funded regional commission. Simply put, building back better the Great Lakes Region is a challenge that requires an empowered and well-financed Great Lakes Authority.

Lessons from the TVA:

Now, almost nine decades after its founding, some lessons from TVA's experiences provide clear guidance for this proposed Great Lakes Authority.

1. Many environmental and economic problems are not bound by state boundaries. Regional approaches are required to solve regional challenges.

2. The development institutions and capacities of any Region are so atomized as to be ineffectual when dealing with broader issues of mutual concern. The 2010 Brookings report highlighted that: "The metropolitan areas of the Great Lakes are ruled by a byzantine network of cities, counties, towns, townships, villages, school boards, fire districts, library districts, workforce boards, industrial development authorities, water and sewer districts and a host of other entities." The Brookings scholars concluded that the metropolitan areas of the Great Lakes need to begin speaking with a unified voice on economic development and design and implement a unified strategy. A Regional Authority can facilitate such coherence.

3. The TVA has a 200-person unit devoted to the economic development of the 7-state TVA region. It is far larger, better funded and more effective than any of the 7 state efforts in the Region. The TVA provides; (a) an international capacity to identify and source private capital investment, (b) secure domestic finance through state, municipal, banking and venture funds, as well as (c) the guidance required to select sites and coordinate infrastructure and agreements at low, long-term interest rates. With these capacities, TVA has created a powerful supplement to state and local efforts to attract capital investment and jobs into the Tennessee Valley. It works well. The Great Lakes basin would benefit from this TVA approach.

Conclusion:

When conceiving the TVA, President Franklin D. Roosevelt focused on equity. What FDR challenged was an inequality that was out of control between capital and labor and also between the regions of the United States, particularly the Southern and Appalachian regions. FDR closed much of this inequality—both between people and between regions. Since the early 1980s, the inequalities between the few and the many, the coasts and the interior, and the developed and underdeveloped regions of the U.S. have widened.

Now, it appears that a new era has opened with the Administration of President Joseph Biden. The new balance between economic efficiency and economic equity now appears to be once again emphasizing a more equitable distribution of economic growth and opportunities for both people and regions. The Great Lakes region has been falling behind by almost every measure and needs substantial attention to reverse economic and

environmental challenges. A Great Lakes Authority is as vital a development tool for the Biden-Harris Era of today as TVA was for the Roosevelt Era of the 1930s.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), the chairman of the Committee on Rules and the chairman of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I begin with some much-deserved thank yous. I thank the Speaker of the House. This deal would not have come together without his leadership and support.

I particularly thank Chair GRANGER and Ranking Member DELAURO for their work and their leadership in putting a package together they can get across this floor in a bipartisan manner.

I would be remiss not to thank my negotiating counterparts, Ranking Member QUIGLEY and Senator SCHATZ and Ranking Member HYDE-SMITH on the Senate side of the rotunda. They were just terrific to work with in every way.

Finally and always, we have outstanding staff. We all know that. This bill wouldn't be here without their hard work.

Obviously, I focus my remarks, Mr. Speaker, very quickly on the portion of the bill that I had the most to do with, and that is the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development portion. There are four areas in that bill I am especially proud of.

First, Members of both parties on both sides of the rotunda worked really hard on safety first: safety for people who are flying, safety for people who are traveling by rail, and safety for men and women on the highways. We met the requirement there and fully funded all those agencies.

Second, this is probably the most robust funding that the Federal Aviation Administration has ever received. We have money in there for 1,800 new air traffic controllers who are desperately needed. We have additional money for technology and infrastructure programs and simulators to make sure they get the most up-to-date training we can possibly provide for them. That was a real accomplishment, and it marries up very nicely with the FAA reauthorization bill that I hope we pass later this Congress.

Third, we maintained the safety net for people in public housing. We all know what has happened to the cost of rents and housing; and, frankly, we didn't want to put anybody out of their home, and we avoided doing that.

□ 1330

Finally, and particularly important to me personally, we have historic gains for Indian housing programs and Indian road programs in this bill.

Again, none of that could have happened without the people I thanked earlier: the Speaker and particularly the chairwoman and ranking member

of the subcommittee and my negotiating partners.

I urge passage of this legislation, Mr. Speaker. I am very proud to be associated and very proud that it will come to and move across this floor, as it should, in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), the distinguished ranking member of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this six-bill package, including the section on Agriculture-Rural Development-FDA.

The ag bill affects the lives of every single American—rural, urban, and suburban—every single day and ensures that Americans have access to abundant, safe, and affordable food, fiber, medicine, and medical devices.

The bill takes care of our families, helps prevent hunger, and fully funds SNAP as well as WIC. The bill is free from almost all the extreme policy riders in the previous versions, and it rejects interference with Americans' healthcare and reproductive freedom, as well as attacks on diversity, equity, and inclusion training.

It protects the Secretary of Agriculture's authority to use the CCC, and it blocks cuts to distressed Farm Service Agency borrowers to help the farmers who feed our country.

It rejects severe cuts to rural electric co-ops and the REAP program, which helps rural businesses save on energy costs and helps make rural energy grids more sustainable and resilient.

It protects small meat and poultry producers and promotes industry competition to reduce the cost of food.

It makes crucial investments in rural housing and rental assistance as well as the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

While the bill is not the best, it brings us closer than the earlier versions to meeting the essential needs of the American people.

I commend President Biden and the bipartisan leadership and staff of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his important contribution to this bill. He has been wonderful to work with side by side, and I appreciate that very much.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank our wonderful chair for yielding the time to me, and I really appreciate her kind words.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2024, particularly the

Energy-Water Development appropriations bill. As chairman of that subcommittee, I worked hard to ensure the bill includes many House Republican priorities.

At a total of \$58.2 billion, the bill advances our national security, energy security, and economic competitiveness in a fiscally responsible manner.

To support our nuclear deterrent, the bill funds the National Nuclear Security Administration at \$24.1 billion, an increase of almost \$2 billion above fiscal year 2023. Specifically, the bill fully funds all major weapons and infrastructure modernization activities, including the W93 warhead, the nuclear sea-launched cruise missile, which is a variant of the B61 gravity bomb, and the restart of plutonium pit production capability.

On the nondefense side of the bill, I was very pleased to be able to secure increases for the funding of the Department of Energy Office of Science, including fusion energy science. This funding will enhance America's role as the global leader of scientific discovery and lay the foundation for future scientific breakthroughs.

The programs funded in the Energy-Water Development bill also help improve our Nation's energy security. To reduce our reliance on foreign sources of critical materials, the bill provides strong support for the full spectrum of production technologies.

Remaining a leader in nuclear technologies will ensure reliable energy here at home and will help allies across the globe.

The bill sustains the Department of Energy's nuclear energy base program and also redirects previously appropriated funds to higher priorities, specifically: \$2.8 billion to develop domestic capability for producing low-enriched uranium, including high-assay low-enriched uranium that will be necessary for upcoming advanced reactors, and \$910 million to support advanced modular reactor design and deployment activities.

There are many other important provisions in this Energy-Water Development bill, but before my time is up, I congratulate Chairwoman GRANGER on bringing together this appropriations package. I also acknowledge the efforts of our colleagues across the aisle, especially my ranking member, Ms. KAPTUR, and our colleagues across the Capitol.

Finally, I thank the staff for all of their hard work throughout this past year: our majority staff, Angie, Perry, Nora, Richie, Scott, Angelina, and Janet; in my personal office, Daniel and Ian; and on the minority side, Scott, Jocelyn, and Adam.

Mr. Speaker, this is a strong bill for America with many House Republicans' priorities, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the distinguished ranking member of the

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the MILCON-VA subcommittee ranking member, I support this minibus not only because we blocked nearly all poison pill policy riders but also because it includes major Democratic priorities.

We restored military construction funding to \$2 billion above the budget request, dedicated resiliency and PFAS remediation funding, and boosted DOD housing oversight.

We held strong on our commitment to veterans by providing \$121 billion for VA medical care, increased and protected funding for gender-specific care for women, and blocked Republican attempts to further restrict women's abortion access and counseling.

I am so pleased my friend, Chairman CARTER, and I joined forces to end harmful VA research on dogs, cats, and nonhuman primates within 2 years.

President Biden and Congress built a minibus that lowers costs, creates jobs, funds food and housing lifelines, and fortifies America's energy independence with cutting-edge climate research.

In other parts of this bill, I am proud we fully fund Everglades restoration at the President's budget request of \$415 million. President Biden has delivered time and time again for Florida's environment and Everglades restoration specifically. This funding allows restoration projects like the EAA Reservoir to continue to move forward so that we can save America's Everglades.

Finally, these bills provide millions of dollars for community project funding back home. I secured more than \$15 million in local projects headed toward Broward County, and communities across America will see similar assistance.

In my community, that means funding to house veterans and help raise local streets in Hollywood to mitigate climate change. It means vital help for law enforcement to conduct more detailed investigations of human trafficking cases. I was able to secure support for local reef preservation; genetic disease research; water, sewer, and drainage upgrades; as well as help to fix nagging local infrastructure repairs that my constituents navigate every day.

Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this minibus.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maine (Ms. PINGREE), the distinguished ranking member of the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding the time.

I, too, rise to support the fiscal year 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act. I

particularly thank Ranking Member DELAURO for her leadership and perseverance in working on this. I also thank my chair on the committee, Chairman SIMPSON, who is a pleasure to work with. I appreciate his collaboration and partnership throughout this process.

I thank Chairwoman GRANGER for her work on this and to all the staff who have made all the difference in us being able to put this together.

As my colleague, Chairman SIMPSON, said, this wasn't necessarily an easy bill. It is never easy to make cuts to programs that I consider vital and particularly important to what we do, but I am pleased that this bill continues our investments to care for our planet, fight the climate emergency, and meet our trust obligations to Tribal nations.

This bill rejects the \$13 billion in devastating cuts imposed in the House Republican bill originally and does not include more than 100 poison pill policy riders.

The bill provides necessary resources to deal with the threat of wildfires in the West and additional funding to continue the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's pay supplement for wildland firefighters.

The bill also protects arts and humanities, maintaining the enacted funding level for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, supporting arts in communities across this country.

Finally, this bill supports Native American families by investing in a strong and resilient Indian Country, including through education and healthcare programs.

Mr. Speaker, these are important investments to all Americans, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARTWRIGHT), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time, and I rise in support of this bill.

The Commerce-Justice-Science division of this bill preserves solid funding for an array of important public investments.

For example, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program is level funded at \$175 million. That is so important. The bill provides strong and continued level funding for NOAA climate research and NASA Earth science.

Before I go on, I have some thank-yous to hand out. We have an incredibly hardworking staff. Bob Bonner, Shannon McCully, Faye Cobb, and Nora Faye spent countless sleepless nights working on this enormous project for this bill.

We can't leave out Chris Bigelow, Raquel Spencer, Adam Wilson, and

Jason Gray. These people have been indispensable in putting together this monumental piece of legislation.

I am thankful for the very hard work of Chair KAY GRANGER and Chairman HAL ROGERS, my counterpart on the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

I am also thankful for the members of my subcommittee on the Democratic side: GRACE MENG of New York, DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER and DAVID TRONE of Maryland, and JOE MORELLE of New York. They have all worked hard on this, Mr. Speaker, and I am thankful for the very hard work put in by Ranking Member DELAURO and especially by our leader, HAKEEM JEFFRIES. These people together forced the removal of nearly 70 bad policy riders covering environmental policy, immigration, women's health, culture war issues, and more, including the removal of more than a dozen harmful gun riders.

This bill provides robust funding for community policing and local justice assistance grants. It rejects the GOP's proposed cut of \$400 million from the FBI—the FBI which protects us from all sorts of murder and mayhem, the elite police force of our Nation. We couldn't cut it like that, and we wouldn't let it happen.

This bill provides \$13 million in increases for programs under the Violence Against Women Act, continued level funding for grants under the community violence intervention and prevention program, the STOP School Violence Act, and the Victims of Child Abuse Act grants.

Its level funding for correctional officers in the Bureau of Prisons is so important.

It provides a solid increase of \$8 million for the DOJ Antitrust Division to help keep prices low in this country because they will get away from us if we don't enforce our antitrust laws.

I am also proud that we secured continued level funding for the Legal Services Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, the CJS appropriations agreement represents a solid effort to preserve these priorities, and I urge our fellow Members to support it.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague and friend from the State of Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

I note that we have only really had now two people speak in opposition to the bill out of the 40 minutes it has been on the floor, and that is just the reality of what we deal with here.

The fact of the matter is all of this is a shell game. Last year, Republicans were presented with a bill. It was supposed to cap spending at \$1.59 trillion. Now, we have legislation that will do no such thing.

Republicans will go around and talk about how they scored major wins, how they somehow delivered for the American people. The fact of the matter is we did no such thing.

We signed up for caps at \$1.59 trillion. We could have had \$1.56 trillion if we would have passed a CR this year that would have triggered the caps.

□ 1345

The Limit, Save, Grow Act that we passed is 1.471 trillion, but we are not doing that. We are going to blow the lid off of caps of \$1.66 trillion. That is what we are actually going to do, while my Republican colleagues are going to run around and say that they somehow delivered cuts by saying \$24 billion of cuts off of a CR that not one Member of this body could come down to the floor and explain.

I would take that challenge. If any Member of the body can come down and explain to the American people in terms that they can understand, explain it. Explain exactly what the cuts look like.

What you will get are things like, oh, we cut 7 percent out of the FBI. What they won't tell you is 95 percent of that cut is eliminating an earmark from Richard Shelby because Richard Shelby is no longer here to defend his pet project building back in Alabama.

They are going to say, oh, look, we are cutting the Department of Justice and the FBI. The truth of the matter is, we didn't get any of the major wins that we worked all last year to get—all of these things like defunding the sanctuary cities refusing to report criminal aliens. That is gone. All of these measures are not in the bill.

I rise in opposition to this legislation. I hope my Republican colleagues will oppose it. We deserve to deliver for the American people the way we said we would to cut spending and secure the border of the United States.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I need to shine a light on an ugly truth buried deep in section 413 of this bill. What is this section all about?

When a veteran applies for benefits they have earned, they are screened to make sure that they are competent to use those benefits to not take advantage of. If a veteran is determined to be mentally incompetent, they are appointed a fiduciary, and by law, they are reported to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, otherwise known as the NICS list.

A determination of mental competency is typically based on very serious mental health conditions like schizophrenia and dementia, and there are various serious reasons why a person with those conditions should not be able to purchase a firearm.

It is also the case that firearms are used in 68 percent of veterans' death by suicide. Suicide is a serious problem among veterans, and since I have had the honor to be on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I have fought to prevent the scourge of veteran suicide.

So why on Earth would this Congress cede one more important safeguard against a veteran's death? I personally

cannot, and that is why I cannot support this bill.

Republicans have pushed this type of provision for over a decade. I know because I have fought every year against this provision. They have done so with misinformation and fearmongering. Democrats have successfully fought this legislation in committee, which is why Republicans did not have the courage to bring this to the floor in the light of day and to have this body consider it through the normal process through regular order.

Instead, they crammed it into this must-pass bill, enacting policy through the back door of a spending bill. They have abandoned all of their other so-called priorities because they wanted this so badly. They wanted so badly to make sure that vulnerable veterans could access more firearms.

This is wrong. Lives are on the line. Veterans' lives are on the line, and I will not agree to legislation that will cause more people's lives to be lost to gun violence.

House Democrats have been working to put people over politics, but it is clear that the Republican majority is content to put politics over veterans, including prioritizing politics over veterans' lives.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy on H.R. 4366 and a statement from the Giffords organization, which both speak to the harm of this provision.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 4366—CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024—REP. GRANGER, R—TX)

The Administration strongly urges swift passage of H.R. 4366, making appropriations for fiscal year 2024, and for other purposes. This bipartisan legislation represents a compromise and neither side got everything it wanted, but it would prevent a damaging shutdown of several key agencies, protect key priorities and make progress for the American people.

H.R. 4366 includes important investments that advance a range of key national priorities, building on the progress that has been made over the past three years both in annual appropriations and through legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The bill fully funds the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, protecting essential benefits for millions of women and children across the Nation. The bill also maintains rental assistance for millions of families, and expands assistance to an additional 3,000 households. The bill also sustains critical infrastructure programs, maintains pay raises for Federal wildland fire fighters, and fully funds veterans' medical care. In addition, the bill also increases funding for rural housing assistance, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Violence Against Women Act, and science investments at the Department of Energy.

The Administration applauds the inclusion of other key priorities, including the Compacts of Free Association, which represents the bedrock of America's broader strategic interests and engagements in the Indo-Pacific. The Administration also appreciates the extension of several vital health care programs, including the Special Diabetes Program, as well as a seven-year extension of the Undetectable Firearms Act.

While the Administration is pleased that hundreds of poison pill provisions and extreme funding cuts were rejected, the Administration opposes the language included in the bill that would potentially undermine the ability of the Veterans' Affairs Department to report a beneficiary to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System to keep guns out of the hands of those prohibited under Federal law from purchasing or possessing firearms. The Administration remains committed to exploring every possible pathway to keep guns out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them and ensure the safety of these individuals and their communities.

The Administration urges the Congress to send this critical legislation to the President's desk for signature without delay and to quickly act on the remaining funding bills as well as the bipartisan national security supplemental.

[From GIFFORDS, Mar. 5, 2024]

Contact: Mary Yatrousis.

SPENDING BILLS MAKE AMERICANS LESS SAFE

WASHINGTON, DC.—Today, GIFFORDS, the national gun violence prevention organization founded by former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, condemned the FY 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The funding bill makes cuts to law enforcement agencies essential to curbing gun violence and weakens the country's gun safety laws.

The legislation includes a harmful provision that will enable veterans who have been deemed "incompetent" by the Department Veterans Affairs (VA) to purchase a firearm by withholding information from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Currently, veterans with this designation, who are often at elevated risk of suicide, are prohibited from having guns and data is submitted to NICS in order to prevent these veterans from purchasing firearms. According to the latest National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report from the Veterans Administration, more than 17 veterans died by suicide each day in 2021.

Vanessa N. Gonzalez, GIFFORDS Vice President of Government and Political Affairs:

"These flawed funding bills gut critical law enforcement agencies and public safety programs, undermining the historic gun safety progress made in the last few years. After increased investment in gun violence prevention and the landmark passage of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which included support from key Republican leaders, this country saw a drop in homicides in 2023 for the first time in years. But with these dangerous policies enabling easier access to firearms for those most at risk and significant funding cuts, our families and communities will be endangered.

"Republicans and Democrats alike failed to prioritize public safety in this bill by including a dangerous gun lobby provision to block the VA from protecting veterans who may be at risk of suicide. Republicans duck the issue of gun violence and instead blame mental illness, then fight to allow individuals with diminished mental capacity unfettered access to guns. We need leaders in Congress who will stand up for the families and the communities they represent and fight to save lives—even when it's hard."

The FY 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act contains six funding bills including Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations Act and the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The legislation includes major cuts to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the FBI, as well as to major public safety programs like grants to states to

upgrade criminal and mental health records in NICS, and the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act grants.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I will not rest until this rider is gone from any future appropriations bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in that effort.

For now I must oppose this bill. There are a lot of good things in this bill, and I don't ask my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill. I have a great deal of respect for my good friend, the ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, Ms. DELAURO, and the significant amount of work that went into this, but I must follow my conscience because of my responsibilities to veterans.

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

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

I sadly must oppose the bill, but I do not urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 2024 Consolidated Appropriation Act and the inclusion of language from the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act. As a Member of Congress who has lived my personal as well as my civic life among the peoples and leaders of the Pacific Island nations and territories, I want first to recognize here the inclusive leadership of Speaker JOHNSON, House Natural Resources Committee Chairman WESTERMAN, and House Foreign Affairs Chairman McCCLURE. Each of these leaders in our current House Majority reached out for my insights and perspectives as a House member who comes from the Pacific, regarding this legislation approving renewal of the Compact of Free Association.

I also join all stakeholders in the future success of America's relations with the U.S. aligned nations of the Pacific, as well as our American territories, in expressing deep gratitude for the bipartisan and bicameral coordination and cooperation in Congress on COFA renewal from 2020 to 2024. As House and Senate committee members we provided necessary policy guidance to the President, National Security Council, State Department, and Interior Department, making clear Congressional interests and expectations that would need to be addressed before statutory ratification by both Houses of terms included in COFA renewal agreements.

This bipartisan cooperation included the support of House Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member GRIJALVA and House Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member MEEKS. Both colleagues cosponsored H.J. Res. 96 with Chairman WESTERMAN and Chairman McCCLURE. Thereby endorsing the original COFA renewal bill that has been inserted in the bill we approve today, which was developed through the bicameral and bipartisan cooperation with the leadership and staff of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources

Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee, in conjunction with House and Senate hearings on COFA renewal.

Of equal importance, all stakeholders in the COFA success story should recognize the national leaders and peoples of our COFA partner nations for strong commitment to the future success of the COFA alliance. Our closest allies in the Pacific acted with wisdom and patience during delays in the COFA renewal process due to initial U.S. negotiating positions that were not feasible in the COFA nations or in Congress. When ill-advised U.S. positions resulted in failure to conclude negotiations and approve COFA III before COFA II expired, the island government heads of state, ministers and chief negotiators worked with U.S. negotiators and Congress to sustain the COFA II framework until the job approving COFA III was done.

The Special Presidential Envoy appointed on the bipartisan and bicameral recommendation from many of us in Congress managed to salvage the COFA negotiations. Ambassador Yun overcame resistance in some dark corners of the Executive Branch bureaucracy sufficiently for the COFA nations to accept and for Congress to approve the package we are ratifying today.

The PRC communist dictatorship used its presence in the COFA nations to exploit the delay in COFA approval, attempting to influence elections, disrupt political and economic processes, and spread corruption. The dedication of these nations to the COFA alliance prevailed, and renewal of our 75-year relationship represents the success of self-determination and self-government over PRC political warfare and imperialism. That makes what we do today a success for democracy and freedom as well as the strategic national security capabilities COFA provides so the U.S. can continue to lead and defend a free and open Indo-Pacific.

The lesson of history in the Pacific is that funding our Compact of Free Association with the U.S. aligned Pacific Island nations of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands could make a difference between peace and war in the Pacific. The COFA alliances secure vital U.S. national security interests and redeem promises of friendship between America as a pacific nation and the peoples of these strategically located islands first forged in the tragedy and misery of WWII.

From 1947 to 1986 under a U.N. trusteeship administered by America the U.S. Congress provided for governance of the islands in Palau, Micronesia and Marshall Islands under both international self-determination law and the domestic model of territorial law and self-government. From 1986 to 2003 under COFA I, the U.S. Congress continued the policy combining international political status of the Free-Associated States (FAS) consistent with the domestic territorial model economic assistance and federal programs.

In 2003, the U.S. renewed COFA for RMI and FSM, but established COFA trust funds that contemplated reliance on proceeds of investment in lieu of continued direct U.S. economic assistance in 2023. Section 354(c) of the 2003 COFA created asymmetry between the certainty of U.S. defense rights and uncertainty about whether trust fund proceeds would be sufficient to sustain a politically feasible balance of burdens and benefits for the

FAS established under the U.N. trusteeship and COFA I.

That same uncertainty was created by terms the U.S. offered to renew Palau's COFA I in 2010. What seemed to emerge was a U.S. State Department policy seeking to reduce and inevitably phase out all or most of the domestic economic and federal program features of COFA. U.S. ambassadors in the FAS and region openly explained that closure of the Office of Freely Associated State Affairs was due to U.S. plans to ratchet down COFA economic cost so those nations would have relations with American more like all Pacific Island Forum nations.

Until reversed after Congress objected, in the 2020–2023 period, the U.S. position in COFA renewal negotiations continued the 2003 State Department policy scaling back U.S. economic assistance and federal programs. Beginning in 2020 leaders in Congress on COFA renewal oversight called for revision and reform of U.S. negotiating playbook to restore the balance of special U.S. defense rights and special economic assistance and programs under the trusteeship and COFA I.

That restoration of sustainable balance of burdens and benefits will be attained by approval of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2024 (COFA) pursuant to Division G, Title II of the legislation we approve today will bring to culmination a successful bi-partisan and bicameral Congressional process for statutory ratification of international agreements renewing our Compacts with the FSM, RMI and Palau. This effort included the House Natural Resources Committee report to the full House approved by unanimous consent on November 8, 2023, supporting approval of the H.J. Res. 96, the original bipartisan bill to approve the COFA amendment agreement package completed for all three COFA partner nations on October 16, 2023.

This was not merely a parliamentary feat for the Chairman or Committee majority, because HNRC approval set in motion timely confirmation by all relevant House and Senate committees that H.J. Res. 96 was ready for floor action in both chambers. This reflects responsible bipartisan and bicameral recognition by our leadership in both Houses that the U.S. gets no better return on investment of taxpayer dollars than we do on international security and defense alliances under COFA. Specifically, COFA entails obligations of \$7.1 billion for exclusive strategic control for 20 years over military access to the vast and vital mid-Pacific Sea lanes, islands and airspace of the COFA nations that straddle the equator across the western and northern Pacific.

Still, even after the strategic and foreign policy necessity of COFA approval was recognized, the pathway to authorization and appropriation of funding for mostly mandatory economic assistance grants and discretionary programs for the COFA nations—over 20 years from FY 2004 through 2043—was not certain until application of budget rules for Congressional disposition of the 2024 national security emergency appropriations legislation to which COFA had been linked were determined.

We now have in the legislation before us an agreed framework for approving ways and means to meet fiscally responsible economic assistance commitments that sustain the COFA alliances with the Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. However, the real

work of defending democracy, rule of law and political as well as economic freedom in the American aligned Pacific nations does not end but rather begins anew with approval of the three bilateral COFA agreements we renew with this legislation.

The threat of PRC and its surrogate regimes to the U.S. homeland from Guam and Northern Mariana Islands to Hawaii is matched by aggressive PRC political warfare in the Pacific Island COFA ally nations of Palau, Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia. Destabilizing our COFA partner nations is a primary goal of the PRC in its menacing plan to surround and subjugate Taiwan through economic, political and if necessary, military coercion. U.S. failure to sustain the COFA firewall protecting democracy in the region will expose U.S. territories, our COFA allies and our western border states to impacts of political aggression, economic coercion and destabilization that will accelerate migration from the COFA countries in the decades ahead.

Just as it was during the first half of the 20th century in the era of Japanese imperialism leading to WWII in the Pacific, in the third decade of the 21st century PRC imperialism seeks domination and control of the Micronesian region as a platform to gain strategic control of the greater Oceanic region. Now referred to as the Blues Continent, the islands and archipelagoes of the mid-Pacific can join and unite Asia and the Americas to promote freedom and prosperity or descend into conflict and confrontation. COFA comparably is to peace and security in the Pacific what we hope NATO will continue to be in Europe.

That is why on September 18, 2023, as Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee Task Force on the Indo-Pacific, I wrote to the Chair and Ranking Member of that House Committee and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, urging approval of the Compact of Free Association (COFA) between the U.S. and our three closest strategic allies in the Indo-Pacific, Palau, Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia. At that time, the 2003 COFA II agreement was set to expire and regrettably did so at the end of FY 2023.

Inclusion of some but not all of the COFA agreement funding for FY 2024 proposed in the COFA renewal agreements under the temporary spending measures after October 1 did not send the strong signal of strategic stability and continuity of U.S. commitment our COFA alliance partner nations needed to counter PRC political warfare threatening America's seven-decade success preserving peace in a free and open Indo-Pacific. That initial failure to provide funding in the Pacific to sustain partnership with our closest allies in the Pacific for the next two decades at this juncture was a miscalculation and self-defeating U.S. policy that we are correcting and ending today.

We supported our leadership in finding a path forward, replacing delay and misdirection caused by initially failed U.S. negotiating positions on COFA renewal agreements with approvals and funding authorization also will end political jousting and gambling with our strategic interests in the Pacific. As noted, Congress will need to exercise oversight of COFA III implementation to ensure provisions of this new COFA III package enacted as federal statute not as a Senate ratified treaty are implemented as statutory mandate by all federal

authorities, not as merely policies to be modified or altered in implementation at discretion of federal officials.

That is particularly true as to the U.S. Department of Education and Department of Veteran Affairs programs, the operations of the State Department office responsible for COFA implementation under direction of the Interagency Group on Free Associated States Affairs, fiscal accountability standards applied by the Secretary of the Interior to monitor and manage economic assistance grants and coordinate federal programs, and the procedures and practices of the RMI and FSM Trust Fund Committee. The latter includes Congressional oversight to ensure that funding for extraordinary or exceptional circumstances in the RMI under Article 18 of the RMI COFA Trust Fund Agreement are used to address the legacy of U.S. nuclear testing in the RMI. That means that such funds shall be applied for the benefit and to meet needs of the people of the atolls specified and named in Article 18 related to the effect of the nuclear testing program on the people and environment in those similarly situated island peoples.

As confirmed by the President's Special Envoy in testimony on this COFA renewal package before Senate and House committees, the unique "political and moral" responsibilities and commitments of the U.S. to the RMI related to the nuclear testing legacy now continuing under Article 18 of the COFA Trust Fund Agreement includes not only past and present but future measures that further implement the Section 177 Agreement. The provisions of the Section 177 Agreement incorporated into this legislation confirm that the entirety of the agreement remains in full effect, and that all provisions of that settlement continue to apply according to the terms of COFA I, COFA II and COFA III.

That continuity of law regarding the Section 177 Agreement includes the relevant provisions of Section 103 of COFA I pursuant to P.L. 99-239 and Section 103 of COFA II pursuant to P.L. 108-188, as well as the still authoritative jurisprudence of *Juda v. U.S.*, 13 Claims Court 667 (1987) relating to retained jurisdiction of federal courts. That specifically ensures that in accordance with Section 177(b) of the U.S.-RMI COFA, when measures taken under the Section 177 agreement end the amounts provided—under mutually agreed and/or ex gratia terms—the outcome of U.S. actions under the settlement must constitute just and adequate compensation.

Reversing the miscalculations of the 2003 COFA acts for FSM and RMI and the 2010 Palau COFA agreement that created uncertainty about post-2023 COFA economic assistance terms is achieved under the COFA III terms we approve today, which anticipate continuity in the COFA alliance not only for 20 years but continuing after 2043. That is imperative because COFA security rights for America and the COFA nations of the Pacific are imperative. Just as our southern border must be secured, our homeland borders and strategic boundaries in the Pacific, including Hawaii, Guam, CNMI, American Samoa and west coast, must be secured consistent with America's leadership of the free world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUCSHON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1061.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1531

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OBERNOLTE) at 3 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1052;

Adoption of House Resolution 1052; if ordered; and

Motions to suspend the rules and;

Adopt H. Res. 1061; and

Pass H.R. 3821.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2799, EXPANDING ACCESS TO CAPITAL ACT OF 2023; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7511, LAKEN RILEY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1052) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2799) to make reforms to the capital markets of the United States, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7511) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to take into custody aliens who have been charged in the United States with theft, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 215, nays 205, not voting 12, as follows:

Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamllager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren

NOT VOTING—7

Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Gosar

Grijalva
Porter
Schiff

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1608

So the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1061) providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4366, with an amendment, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 339, nays 85, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 64]
YEAS—339
Adams
Aderholt
Aguiar
Allred
Amo
Amodei
Sherman
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Stanton
Bentz
Strickland
Soto
Beyer
Bice
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burgess
Bush
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Españolat
Evans
Ezell
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick

Fleischmann
Lynch
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCauley
McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Moran
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norchcross
Nunn (IA)
Obermole
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarella
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Peters
Petterson
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sanchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell

Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Staubert
Steed
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Suzuki
Swalwell
Sykes
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)

NAYS—85

Alford
Allen
Armstrong
Arrington
Banks
Bean (FL)
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buck
Burchett
Burlison
Cammack
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
DesJarlais
Donalds
Duncan
Estes

NOT VOTING—8

Bishop (NC)
Gosar
Grijalva

Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
LaMalfa

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1615

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:
Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 64.

FIREFIGHTER CANCER REGISTRY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3821) to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

Thompson (PA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner

Walberg
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Fallon
Finstad
Fischbach
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Good (VA)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hunt
Jordan
LaHood
Lesko
Loudermilk
Luna
Mace
Mann
Massie
Mast
McClintock
McCormick
Miller (IL)

Mills
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Murphy
Nehls
Norman
Ogles
Palmer
Perry
Posey
Rodgers (WA)
Rose
Rosendale
Roy
Schweikert
Self
Spartz
Steube
Takano
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Dуйne
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Williams (TX)

chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services, or their respective designees.

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

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

Mr. Chair, 40 years ago, my father started a small business in our backyard. Growing up in Gastonia, North Carolina, being the youngest of five kids, my father started a small business with his friend, who also had five kids. It didn't change the world and it was just a lawn mowing business. We mowed other people's grass, and that is what put two families through school, provided for two families, and eventually provided for many others as they scaled up and grew the business.

While my dad's small business didn't change the world, it certainly changed my world and our family's world.

Like other entrepreneurs, though, my dad needed access to affordable capital to scale his business. When other sources of opportunities for lending of capital dried up, he relied on a charge card, which we now call a credit card, to grow his business and to start employing other folks.

This story isn't unique to my family. We see this playing out across the country today. Entrepreneurs with new ideas or who are seeking to grow their businesses are struggling to access affordable credit and affordable capital. That means that they are not given the same opportunity to change their lives, their family's lives, or their community.

This is a loss for all of us. It is a loss for American innovation. That is where investment capital and this bill come in to help more entrepreneurs realize their version of the American Dream.

Currently, the venture capital that funds startups are concentrated in traditional financial hubs, like Silicon Valley, Boston, and New York City. Those three cities of the country account for almost three-quarters of all venture funding.

Now, that is not for every business, but it is a very specific group of startups. This Congress and our committee heard compelling testimony from folks across the ideological spectrum who urged us to make it easier for them to raise money from nontraditional sources.

This would allow them not only to build their funds and deploy more capital, but also share their financial success within their community.

This bill, the Expanding Access to Capital Act, does just that and more by alleviating the unique fundraising challenges faced by entrepreneurs and their investors who don't live in Silicon Valley.

This bill will also make improvements to our public markets and create new opportunities for everyday inves-

tors to save and build wealth and enjoy their version of the American Dream.

This form of capital formation is a critical ingredient for creating long-term economic growth that has proven enduring here in the United States. Not to mention, it has traditionally been an area where a divided Washington can find consensus.

A little more than a decade ago, Congress came together to pass the JOBS Act, which President Obama then signed into law. It was a Republican House, a Democrat Senate, and a Democrat in the White House who put that historic piece of legislation through the process and into law.

It addressed several hurdles entering our capital markets by rightsizing onerous regulatory barriers and providing entrepreneurs access to new levels and streams of funding.

Recognizing the need to build on the success of the JOBS Act, the House Financial Services Committee embarked on a yearslong mission to better understand the remaining headwinds hindering capital formation and legislate real and impactful solutions.

Many of those solutions are found in this legislation we are considering today, which consist of commonsense, innovative ideas to accomplish three goals: First, the bill strengthens our public markets and aims to incentivize companies to go public, undoing the troubling decline of initial public offerings here in the United States, or IPOs. IPOs are businesses that average everyday investors can own a piece of.

Why is it important that we attract more companies to the public markets in the United States?

One, everyday American investors, also known as retail investors, are limited to investing in publicly traded companies. Most public companies here in the United States that are of large size and scale should be available in the public markets. More public companies here in the United States means more opportunities for the American retail investor to grow their savings.

Number two, job growth. A 2021 study found that biotech startups expand their workforce by an average of 150 percent in the first 3 years after undertaking an initial public offering using the JOBS Act provisions.

To make our public markets more attractive, H.R. 2799, this bill, includes provisions that rightsize regulatory burdens on public companies, streamline the process of going public, and allow more companies to qualify as an emerging growth company.

This is an extension of more key provisions within the bipartisan JOBS Act that have a proven record of success.

Second, as I said earlier, this legislation supports small businesses and entrepreneurs who are the true engine of our economy and account for 99.9 percent of all U.S. businesses.

Among other policies, this bill allows small businesses to raise more money through offerings. It also addresses limitations on small, emerging venture

fund managers attempting to raise and deploy capital to startups and entrepreneurs in their communities.

Third, this bill increases access to private markets and allows more Americans to participate in high-growth investment opportunities that have been traditionally reserved for the wealthy elite.

Currently, these investment opportunities are reserved for those qualifying as "accredited investors," which dictates what a person can invest in based off their wealth or income.

We should all agree that wealth and income should not be a proxy for sophistication, especially if investors have expertise or experience that prepares them to invest in private offerings.

This bill includes provisions to expand the accredited investor definition, allowing everyday Americans to invest where they see opportunities and where they have expertise. That means new wealth-building opportunities for American investors who have been arbitrarily sidelined for too long.

Now, these private markets, that is where we have had the fastest growing businesses. The greatest wealth creation is ownership in these private markets. We want to link that up for all Americans to have that opportunity to invest in those markets where they have expertise.

Let me close with this: Capital formation should not be a partisan issue.

This legislation builds on the success of the bipartisan JOBS Act and will benefit Americans in every single one of our districts, either by growing their retirement savings or through job creation and economic growth in their community.

This bill is a compilation of several standalone bills introduced by numerous members of the Financial Services Committee, under the great leadership of our subcommittee chair on Capital Markets, ANN WAGNER of Missouri.

There are many Members that I wish to recognize, but it would take too long at this time to go through all of their great work; however, it is embodied in this bill before us today.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be here on the House floor, and I am grateful to the House Republican leadership that have prioritized this help for small businesses and our legislative work in the Financial Services Committee. I think we can see that we all want to be unified in helping the American people achieve their dreams in the way they see fit. For small business folks that want to start a small business, we need to make things easier for them, not harder. This bill makes it better for them and easier for them.

Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) to control the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) will control the time.

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

Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 2799, a bill that would cause significant long-term harm to both small businesses trying to raise money and mom-and-pop investors trying to save for their retirements.

A primary reason our capital markets are the envy of the world is because investors have confidence in the financial products that they are investing in. That confidence is hard won to be sure. It is the result of a robust disclosure regime that has been in place for decades and requires public companies to transparently and accurately tell investors about the inner workings of their businesses, their financials, and the risk involved with purchasing their shares.

Investor confidence is also rooted in strong legal protections for investors and their right to have a say in the company's direction through the proxy process.

And importantly, investor confidence is based on having a strong enforcer, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, that sets clear rules of the road, and keeps fraudsters out of the system.

While our capital markets are far from perfect, trillions of dollars are invested every year because investors are confident that they won't be ripped off. Unfortunately, the bill before us today threatens to undermine that investor confidence.

First, H.R. 2799 would expand the number of companies that are able to offer securities without needing to register with the SEC or provide critical disclosures to ordinary investors.

This expansion will only benefit moderate to large companies rather than the small businesses this act purports to help. By exempting more companies from public SEC registration requirements, this bill expands the size of the private securities markets, which are growing rapidly and already outnumber the public securities markets 2-1.

Second, this bill makes it easier for financial middlemen to peddle opaque, illiquid, and high-risk private securities to retail investors who won't receive the information they need to make informed investment decisions.

This isn't democratizing finance or creating investment opportunities; this is Wall Street creating another target to dump its bottom-of-the-barrel investment products onto retail investors.

Private securities, compared to public securities, are significantly more risky and more volatile, less transparent, harder to cash out, and have fewer legal protections.

The bottom-of-the-barrel private securities that will be sold to retail investors as a result of this bill are especially dangerous because they will only be offered to retail investors after private equity and venture capital funds have already passed on them. It is important to notice that 90 percent of startups fail and private equity would

love to dump these stocks on your constituents.

□ 1645

Third, H.R. 2799 undermines the ability of State securities regulators to help small businesses raise capital and stop fraudsters. State securities regulators are on the front line of our capital markets, investigating complaints of investor fraud, enforcing State securities laws, educating investors about their rights, and helping small businesses raise money to fund their goals and comply with the law. We should not preempt States by blocking these important overseers from doing their jobs.

To summarize, H.R. 2799 is a Wall Street wish list that collectively exempts big corporations and investment funds from transparency and accountability while gutting critical legal safeguards for Main Street investors. By weakening investor protections in numerous ways, this bill would allow fraud to proliferate and retirees and other mom-and-pop investors to be ripped off by bad actors.

This bill would ultimately harm confidence in our capital markets while doing nothing to assist the very small businesses the bill purports to help. In fact, as investors lose confidence in our markets, small businesses will see their capital costs rise, not fall.

I want to thoroughly debunk the notion that this bill somehow helps small businesses because the truth is that it would do just the opposite. I am very supportive of small businesses.

In fact, I have worked extensively this Congress with Chair MCHENRY on bipartisan ways that we can help small businesses raise capital. We have worked together to strengthen crowdfunding and to change the rules on accredited investors. There are several policy solutions that we have agreed on that represent targeted ways to increase capital formation without harming investor protection.

In fact, we worked together to pass 13 bills last year that represent bipartisan, commonsense reforms that support small businesses, enabling those who are knowledgeable about the risks of private securities to make informed investments, while ensuring robust investor protections.

Most of these bills also passed under suspension on the House floor, so there is a bipartisan way forward on this issue, but instead of working with Democrats to get these bipartisan bills to the President's desk, Republicans have packaged together this toxic combination of partisan bills and are focusing their time and energy here.

Mr. Chair, Democrats on the Financial Services Committee voted unanimously to oppose this bill at a markup last April. I urge all of my colleagues to unanimously reject it on the floor today.

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

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

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act.

As chair of the Capital Markets Subcommittee, I am so proud of the hard work of our members in crafting this landmark piece of legislation that supports America's Main Street businesses and retail investors. I am also grateful to leadership for affirming that this bill is a crucial priority and taking action to pass this legislation in the House today.

This legislation is the culmination of four hearings that the Capital Markets Subcommittee has held this Congress, where we heard powerful testimony from 19 witnesses, including founders of both private and public companies, investors of all sizes, former SEC Commissioners, securities law practitioners, and even one of the authors of the IPO-related provisions of the JOBS Act.

As the witnesses at each of these hearings made clear, all the bills included in H.R. 2799 play a vital role in strengthening our public markets, improving access to capital for small businesses and entrepreneurs, and expanding investment opportunities for all Americans.

For example, Representative STEIL's Helping Startups Continue to Grow Act strengthens our public markets, making them more attractive by allowing more companies to benefit from emerging growth company status. Representative STEIL's bill also extends the maximum amount of time an issuer can remain an emerging growth company, helping to rightsize the regulatory burdens on newly public companies that are working to achieve their potential. This commonsense provision builds on one of the most successful and impactful reforms from the JOBS Act of 2012.

Representative HOUCHIN's Regulation A+ Improvement Act improves access to capital for small businesses by increasing the amount that small companies can raise under Regulation A from \$50 million to \$150 million without being subject to burdensome IPO compliance requirements. In making this adjustment, Regulation A will become a more attractive pathway for small businesses to raise capital.

Our committee's legislation also expands investment opportunities for all Americans by revising the accredited investor definition to include individuals receiving investment advice on a private offering from a qualified accredited investor.

Amendments to H.R. 2799 include Representative HUIZENGA's Improving Disclosure for Investors Act, Representative LAWLER's Helping Angels Lead Our Startups Act, Representative LUCAS' Retirement Fairness for Charities and Educational Institutions Act, and my Increasing Investor Opportunities Act, which gives investors greater choice and access to an asset class typically reserved for the wealthy. They are all welcome and thoughtful additions.

Together, these policies ensure that our markets are working efficiently and effectively to provide companies access to the capital that they need to innovate, grow, and create jobs, not just on the coasts but in America's heartland as well.

H.R. 2799 offers targeted, common-sense solutions that level the playing field for Main Street investors looking to save for a new home, their child's future, or retirement.

Moreover, America's IPO market has been on the decline for years due to increased regulatory and compliance costs. This package builds on the success of the JOBS Act and reins in those onerous barriers that are keeping America's innovators from seeking to enter and stay in our public markets.

The thoughtfully crafted bills in H.R. 2799 would address a multitude of inefficiencies within our public and private markets and deliver sustainable and enduring growth to our economy.

I thank Chairman MCHENRY for his leadership and tireless efforts in getting these bills to the floor, and I also thank the Members who have bills in H.R. 2799 for their incredible work.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the ranking member of the Small Business Committee.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 2799.

As ranking member of the House Small Business Committee, I know that small businesses are the driving force of the American economy. Access to capital is the lifeblood of our Nation's small firms. It is what allows them to expand and hire more workers.

A key method for small businesses to raise capital is seeking investors through our Nation's capital markets. It is a method I support. However, raising funds through capital markets cannot come at the expense of retail investors, employees, and independent contractors. This bill fails to strike an appropriate balance and significantly weakens investor protections while dramatically expanding the number of exempt offerings.

When we created new exemptions in the JOBS Act, they were designed for smaller firms. Today, large private companies and private equity funds have misused these exemptions to create an opaque lending market that is now bigger than our public markets. The lack of transparency associated with these funds isn't beneficial for small businesses seeking financing from these funds or retail investors investing in them.

Private securities offerings are generally deemed as riskier than public offerings. The lack of disclosures and transparency in this bill allows retail investors to participate in these offerings without adequately understanding the dangers, creating the potential for

significant financial loss for working-class investors and retirees.

President Biden has already signaled his opposition to this bill. If the majority were serious about helping small businesses raise capital through our private markets, they would pull this bill and work with us to craft a bipartisan solution that helps small businesses and protects investors.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to vote "no."

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS), my classmate and good friend and colleague.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act.

This commonsense legislation is critical for long-term, sustainable economic growth by strengthening our public markets, helping small businesses and entrepreneurs, and increasing opportunity for all investors.

The Biden administration has continuously increased obligations and regulations, which in turn have increased compliance costs for public companies and businesses. H.R. 2799 would reduce compliance burdens and allow for companies and markets to thrive.

This important legislation would also benefit small businesses by reducing regulatory barriers to ensure small business and entrepreneurs have access to the capital they need to support their operations and communities.

I thank Chairman MCHENRY for including language from my legislation that expands benefits currently reserved for emerging growth companies to other public companies. The EGC on-ramp has been a key tool in funding growth and will make public markets more attractive to help small issuers and level the playing field.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, the Expanding Access to Capital Act, to help strengthen public markets. In God we trust.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who is also the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the bill. It is not a good bill. We have some amendments that will make it slightly better, but it still won't be a good bill. All the Democrats on the Financial Services Committee voted against this bill in committee.

Let's give a little background here. The gold standard is a public offering of securities. They then become registered securities. They can trade on an exchange. They provide disclosures to investors and audited financial statements.

We do have exceptions to this rule—exceptions for small offerings and exceptions where you are going to have accredited investors who have the capacity to absorb an enormous amount of risk and the capacity to evaluate the investments.

The definition of an accredited investor was criticized by the chair of the full committee when he was here, and I agree that definition should change. Right now, it is focused too much just on wealth and income. We need, instead, to also allow people to be accredited investors if they have the expertise to evaluate the investment and are not putting too much of their own resources into one illiquid investment. We also need to take a look at the expertise that an investor may not have himself or herself but can acquire through truly independent advisers.

The fact is that the definition of accredited investor should be improved, and that is why this House passed and sent to the Senate bills that would improve it, and I hope the Senate will finally take action on those bipartisan pieces of legislation.

This bill doesn't really improve the definition of accredited investor. It says that you are an accredited investor if you sign a piece of paper saying you want to be an accredited investor, self-certification. That shreds investor protection.

□ 1700

This bill not only guts investor protection when it comes to the definition of accredited investor, but it also locks in a system in which a company can say they are a private company even though they have thousands of owners—thousands. You can have 2,000 or more owners because you may have an investment vehicle that has hundreds of investors of its own, and it counts as only one investor toward that 2,000.

That means that a lot of companies will never go public. That means that those investors who want investor protection and want the liquidity of being able to sell their shares on an exchange will never be able to invest. It means that these companies will not provide the audited financial statements and the other disclosures that are required of public companies.

It guts the concept of being a public company. Why is that so important? Because today, the SEC published climate disclosures required of public companies, and today, we are considering a bill that is designed to truncate the number of public companies that we have.

If you care about the economy, vote "no." If you want to protect investors, vote "no." If you want to protect our climate, vote "no."

This bill would open the door to investors placing their entire nest eggs in private securities with insufficient transparency, no audited financial statements, and no liquidity. Vote "no."

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. TIMMONS), my friend and colleague.

Mr. TIMMONS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2799, the Expanding Access to Capital Act. This legislation would provide greater access to funding by strengthening public

markets, expanding fundraising opportunities for entrepreneurs, and increasing investment opportunities for everyday Americans.

This package represents a much-needed stimulant to capital formation and would empower small businesses throughout the country.

One particular provision contained in this package is my bill, the Improving Capital Allocation for Newcomers Act, also known as the ICAN Act, which seeks to generate more regional venture capital participation outside of Silicon Valley by raising the cap on qualifying venture capital funds from \$10 million to \$150 million and raising the number of permitted investors from 250 to 600.

This would allow venture funds to raise more money from more individuals, enabling funds to build an investor base outside of traditional financial centers.

According to the SEC's Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation report, 78 percent of small business owners are concerned about their ability to access capital. My bill would alleviate some of this concern by making it easier for venture capital to expand into new regions and communities.

Simply put, new venture funds mean new opportunities for small businesses and innovators to gain the funding they need to develop their ideas, promote good-paying jobs, and grow their companies.

Mr. Chair, an entrepreneur in Spartanburg, South Carolina, should be afforded the same opportunities to grow their businesses as an entrepreneur in Silicon Valley.

I am proud to say this legislation democratizes finances and allows for more South Carolinians to support local economic ventures, providing capital outside of traditional venture capital hubs and bringing these funds from Silicon Valley to the Fourth District of South Carolina.

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

Let's be clear. This Wall Street wish list bill is going nowhere in the Senate, but we have several bipartisan bills that support small businesses and retail investors that actually have a chance of getting into law.

Chair MCHENRY and I have worked together for several years on legislation to strengthen our capital markets, going back to the JOBS Act and our efforts on crowdfunding and legislation to support angel investors.

In fact, this Congress, we worked extensively together on 13 bipartisan bills, including my bill, H.R. 2796, the Promoting Opportunities for Non-Traditional Capital Formation Act, which requires the SEC's Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation to provide educational resources and host events to promote capital-raising options for underrepresented small businesses and businesses in rural areas and to meet annually with representatives of State securities

commissions; Mr. MEEKS' bill, H.R. 2795, the Enhancing Multi-Class Share Disclosures Act, which requires an issuer with the multi-class share structure to disclose certain information regarding the voting power of specified persons; Mr. HIMES' bill, H.R. 2812, the Middle Market IPO Underwriting Cost Act, which requires the SEC to study the costs encountered by small- and medium-sized companies when undertaking initial public offerings and certain offerings exempt from securities registration requirements; and Mr. GOTTHEIMER's bill, H.R. 2593, the Senior Security Act, which establishes a senior investor task force within the SEC. The task force must report on topics relating to investors over the age of 65 and make recommendations for actions to address problems encountered by senior investors.

Committee Democrats also supported several more Republican bills that help promote capital formation. We could have worked together to get these all included in the NDAA, but Chair MCHENRY knows why that didn't happen—Republicans blocked all of these bills from being added.

Today, Republicans are pivoting to a completely partisan approach to the issue with this bill. This is par for the course with extreme MAGA Republicans who prefer to pander to their base instead of actually getting things done.

When Republicans are done wasting their time on this extreme MAGA bill, Democrats will be ready to get to work on solutions that actually have a chance of making a difference for small businesses and retail investors.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), my friend and colleague.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2799. American public markets remain the go-to place for innovative companies to grow and build capital. However, the regulatory environment has steadily become more burdensome and costly, creating a real divide between market regulation now and market regulation years ago.

At a time when the markets and regulatory environment were more conducive to small- and mid-cap stocks, groundbreaking Wisconsin companies like Harley-Davidson, Johnson Controls, and Kohler raised capital by going public. Through the IPOs, these upstart enterprises raised the funding necessary to expand their workforce and operations. At the same time, families benefited from the opportunity to invest in these companies to build savings and wealth.

While Americans have started new businesses at record rates since the pandemic, many still struggle to meet their own capital needs. The number of U.S. IPOs has continued to decline since the early 2000s as the cost and

regulatory burdens of going and staying public remain high.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. SMUCKER). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Under President Biden, SEC Chairman Gary Gensler proposed over 50 rules. This must be reversed, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" for this commonsense legislation.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, the following organizations oppose this bill: the North American Securities Administrators Association, Consumer Federation of America, AFL-CIO, AFSCME, Communications Workers of America, SEIU, Steelworkers, Transport Workers Union of America, Americans for Financial Reform, Public Citizen, Center for American Progress, and Main Street Alliance.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL), my friend and colleague.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Expanding Access to Capital Act. This package would help improve our capital markets to foster innovation, growth, and job creation here in the United States.

It is a win for workers, investors, and entrepreneurs. It includes two bills I introduced that would help smaller public companies raise money.

The first, the Helping Startups Continue to Grow Act, would expand the IPO on-ramp first established in the bipartisan JOBS Act. It allows more early-stage companies to keep their emerging growth company status for longer, and it would update the low caps currently in place. The provisions ensure more companies can benefit from the rightsized disclosures and reduce compliance costs that come with EGC status.

Thanks to EGC status, these companies can focus on innovation and job creation rather than complying with a regulatory regime designed for larger and more mature firms. This is especially helpful for R&D-intensive startups that often work for years to develop lifesaving cures or transformative technologies.

This package also includes my bill to expand the availability of well-known seasoned issuer status to more small public companies. This designation allows qualified companies to use the shelf registration process, saving them time and money when they go to the public markets to raise capital.

In the two decades since the WKSI construct was created, it has been shown to be safe and effective. My targeted reform would reduce the cost of capital for small market companies, spurring more job creation and growth.

Many of these ideas are in Chairman MCHENRY's package, and they have long had bipartisan support and a long bipartisan track record.

U.S.C. 77b(a)(15)), as amended by sections 3202 and 3302, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(v) any individual receiving individualized investment advice or individualized investment recommendations with respect to the applicable transaction from an individual described under section 203.501(a)(10) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations.

“(B) DEFINITIONS.—In subparagraph (A)(v):

“(i) INVESTMENT ADVICE.—The term ‘investment advice’ shall be interpreted consistently with the interpretation of the phrase ‘engages in the business of advising others, either directly or through publications or writings, as to the value of securities or as to the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities’ under section 202(a)(11) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-2(a)(11)).

“(ii) INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATION.—The term ‘investment recommendation’ shall be interpreted consistently with the interpretation of the term ‘recommendation’ under section 240.151-1 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations.”

(b) CONFORMING CHANGES TO REGULATIONS.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall revise section 203.501(a) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, and any other definition of “accredited investor” in a rule of the Commission in the same manner as such definition is revised under subsection (a).

The Acting CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of House Report 118-407. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

□ 1715

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. LAWLER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part B of House Report 118-407.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION D—HELPING ANGELS LEAD OUR STARTUPS

SEC. 4001. CLARIFICATION OF GENERAL SOLICITATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section and the revision of rules required under this section:

(1) ANGEL INVESTOR GROUP.—The term “angel investor group” means any group that—

(A) is composed of accredited investors interested in investing personal capital in early-stage companies;

(B) holds regular meetings and has defined processes and procedures for making investment decisions, either individually or among the membership of the group as a whole; and

(C) is neither associated nor affiliated with brokers, dealers, or investment advisers.

(2) ISSUER.—The term “issuer” means an issuer that is a business, is not in bank-

ruptcy or receivership, is not an investment company, and is not a blank check, blind pool, or shell company.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall revise Regulation D (17 CFR 230.500 et seq.) to require that in carrying out the prohibition against general solicitation or general advertising contained in section 230.502(c) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, the prohibition shall not apply to a presentation or other communication made by or on behalf of an issuer which is made at an event—

(1) sponsored by—

(A) the United States or any territory thereof, the District of Columbia, any State, a political subdivision of any State or territory, or any agency or public instrumentality of any of the foregoing;

(B) a college, university, or other institution of higher education;

(C) a nonprofit organization;

(D) an angel investor group;

(E) a venture forum, venture capital association, or trade association; or

(F) any other group, person, or entity as the Securities and Exchange Commission may determine by rule;

(2) where any advertising for the event does not reference any specific offering of securities by the issuer;

(3) the sponsor of which—

(A) does not make investment recommendations or provide investment advice to event attendees;

(B) does not engage in an active role in any investment negotiations between the issuer and investors attending the event;

(C) does not charge event attendees any fees other than reasonable administrative fees;

(D) does not receive any compensation for making introductions between investors attending the event and issuers, or for investment negotiations between such parties;

(E) makes readily available to attendees a disclosure not longer than one page in length, as prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission, describing the nature of the event and the risks of investing in the issuers presenting at the event; and

(F) does not receive any compensation with respect to such event that would require registration of the sponsor as a broker or a dealer under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or as an investment advisor under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940; and

(4) where no specific information regarding an offering of securities by the issuer is communicated or distributed by or on behalf of the issuer, other than—

(A) that the issuer is in the process of offering securities or planning to offer securities;

(B) the type and amount of securities being offered;

(C) the amount of securities being offered that have already been subscribed for; and

(D) the intended use of proceeds of the offering.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Subsection (b) may only be construed as requiring the Securities and Exchange Commission to amend the requirements of Regulation D with respect to presentations and communications, and not with respect to purchases or sales.

(d) NO PRE-EXISTING SUBSTANTIVE RELATIONSHIP BY REASON OF EVENT.—Attendance at an event described under subsection (b) shall not qualify, by itself, as establishing a pre-existing substantive relationship between an issuer and a purchaser, for purposes of Rule 506(b).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1052, the gentleman

from New York (Mr. LAWLER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Chair, today I rise to urge the House to adopt my amendment, which would include the Helping Angels Lead Our Startups Act, otherwise known as the HALOS Act, into the underlying bill.

The HALOS Act will promote access to investment capital for small companies and ensure that startups can continue to generate interest and connect with investors.

It will do this by ensuring that demo days, pitch competitions, and community economic development events where there is no specific investment offering are not considered general solicitation under Reg D.

In doing so, companies will be able to engage with a wider audience of investors and spread word of the products and services that they can offer to help develop a thriving and diverse economy.

Small businesses are facing turbulent economic times. After surviving COVID, they are still dealing with the impacts of inflation, low confidence in the economy, and having to contend with many regulations which can stifle economic growth, prevent entrepreneurs from achieving their full potential, and frankly, prevent folks from living out their American Dream.

Entrepreneurs and small businesses drive the American economy. In 2019, the SBA calculated that close to 44 percent of our GDP was the result of small businesses.

Barriers like the general compliance requirements on general solicitations can reduce opportunities for small businesses, entrepreneurs, and everyday investors as they both soak up the amount of time and resources needed but also deter small businesses who are afraid of unintentionally violating these laws.

We have seen many successes from and since the passing of the bipartisan JOBS Act over a decade ago that helped reduce barriers to investment.

The HALOS Act is a logical next step on the road of clarifying and modernizing rules that will enable startups to find the resources they need to grow and thrive.

Angel investors who are defined by this bill not only play a major role in financing individual efforts to pursue their dream and start a business, but also often provide a wealth of advice and support for tens of thousands of startups.

Long-term impact can be seen as companies such as Amazon, Costco, Facebook, Google, and Starbucks all initially were funded by angel investors.

By alleviating burdens on businesses, cutting red tape, and making capital in our public markets easier and less costly for emerging companies, we will be helping to build a more diverse and inclusive universe of entrepreneurs and

founders by expanding opportunities to underrepresented entrepreneurs and communities facing capital formation challenges.

The HALOS Act will simply allow folks to get eyes on their businesses and potentially find the vital investor they need to succeed.

Once again, I urge all of my colleagues to support this commonsense and bipartisan amendment to help our small businesses and startups.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

This amendment sponsored by Mr. LAWLER codifies a controversial Trump-era SEC rule that is opposed by many investor advocates.

The amendment allows high-risk startups to tout their businesses in front of retail investors. This is currently prohibited in part because roughly 75 percent of VC-backed startups fail.

The amendment would specifically allow angel investors and issuers to market their startup ventures to prospective investors at colleges and non-profits, including churches.

Broadly marketing your securities to the public in this fashion—known as a general solicitation—is usually prohibited for private offerings like these because the public nature of the market effectively makes the offering itself public, and therefore, requires registration with the SEC.

At universities and churches, students and congregants gather to learn, and they generally trust the information they receive. I don't believe these are spaces where it is appropriate to market highly risky investment opportunities.

In my own district, a church was the victim of an investment scheme in which an issuer conned the church out of nearly \$6 million. I previously offered an amendment during our committee's markup last year that would prevent future frauds like this from happening again—frauds that would be further enabled by this amendment.

As such, I urge my colleagues to oppose Mr. LAWLER's amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Chair, I would just remind the ranking member that you need to be an accredited investor to invest. Many of the examples that the gentlewoman highlights are frankly null and void.

Mr. Chair, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER), the chair of the Capital Markets Subcommittee.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my friend and colleague

from New York's amendment, which would add his Helping Angels Lead Our Startups, or HALOS, Act to H.R. 2799.

Mr. LAWLER's legislation is a commonsense step to promote capital formation by permanently reducing certain burdens on U.S. small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Unfortunately, when implementing the JOBS Act of 2012, the SEC complicated these events for many startups by classifying demo day discussions as general solicitations, blocking companies from being able to use common fundraising practices.

In 2021, then-SEC Chairman Clayton reformed these rules to provide relief for entrepreneurs throughout our country, and my colleague's amendment builds on this progress by adding much-needed certainty that will ensure startups can continue to access demo days without sacrificing their ability to raise capital through popular and practical regulatory pathways.

Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle have recognized the need for this amendment with the current language receiving strong bipartisan support, once again, from the committee.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to adopt this commonsense amendment and help U.S. startups grow their ideas into thriving and successful businesses.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, what Mr. LAWLER doesn't recognize is that the underlying bill makes the accredited investor definition meaningless. All you have to do is check a box, and poof, able to invest.

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Chair, I rise again to urge the House to adopt my amendment, the Helping Angels Lead Our Startups Act, otherwise known as the HALOS Act, into the underlying bill.

Ensuring that folks have access to capital is critical, and this amendment will help ensure that our small businesses, which are the lifeblood of our economy, have greater access to capital and that accredited investors will be able to invest in these small startup businesses.

Mr. Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to support my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Simply put, this amendment allows failure-prone startups to market their private offerings to unaccredited investors who do not fully understand the risks involved.

Colleges and churches are not the place startups should be raising money, and in general, we should not make it easier for them to push their risky private securities on unsuspecting retail investors, as this provision does.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. HUIZENGA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 118-407.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION D—IMPROVING DISCLOSURE FOR INVESTORS

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the "Improving Disclosure for Investors Act of 2024".

SEC. 4002. ELECTRONIC DELIVERY.

(a) PROMULGATION OF RULES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall propose and, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Commission shall finalize, rules, regulations, amendments, or interpretations, as appropriate, to allow a covered entity to satisfy the entity's obligation to deliver regulatory documents required under the securities laws to investors using electronic delivery.

(b) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.—Rules, regulations, amendments, or interpretations the Commission promulgates pursuant to subsection (a) shall:

(1) With respect to investors that do not receive all regulatory documents by electronic delivery, provide for—

(A) delivery of an initial communication in paper form regarding electronic delivery;

(B) a transition period not to exceed 180 days until such regulatory documents are delivered to such investors by electronic delivery; and

(C) during a period not to exceed 2 years following the transition period set forth in subparagraph (B), delivery of an annual notice in paper form solely reminding such investors of the ability to opt out of electronic delivery at any time and receive paper versions of regulatory documents.

(2) Set forth requirements for the content of the initial communication described in paragraph (1)(A).

(3) Set forth requirements for the timing of delivery of a notice of website availability of regulatory documents and the content of the appropriate notice described in subsection (h)(3)(B).

(4) Provide a mechanism for investors to opt out of electronic delivery at any time and receive paper versions of regulatory documents.

(5) Require measures reasonably designed to identify and remediate failed electronic deliveries of regulatory documents.

(6) Set forth minimum requirements regarding readability and retainability for regulatory documents that are delivered electronically.

(7) For covered entities other than brokers, dealers, investment advisers registered with the Commission, and investment companies, require measures reasonably designed to ensure the confidentiality of personal information in regulatory documents that are delivered to investors electronically.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment ignores the reality that many investors, particularly seniors, do not have access to or the ability to review electronic documents or simply do not prefer electronic delivery of financial documents. It would require investors to opt in to receive paper documents, which would effectively prevent individuals who do not have easy access to the internet from viewing important financial documents about the securities they invest in.

Several major investor advocate groups strongly oppose this bill, including the AARP, the North American Securities Administrators Association, the Consumer Federation of America, Americans for Financial Reform, and Public Citizen, to name a few.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this terrible amendment.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. NICKEL).

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this bipartisan amendment with Mr. HUIZENGA. I also thank my colleagues, Congressman STEIL and Congressman AUCHINCLOSS, for cosponsoring this amendment.

This commonsense, probusiness amendment cuts unnecessary red tape and directs the SEC to make electronic delivery, or eDelivery, the default communication method for investment companies with their investors. The amendment aims to modernize the policy, with investors opting in to paper disclosures instead of opting out while ensuring that paper will always be an option.

Consumer protection is a cornerstone of this amendment, which is why it includes a 2-year transition period. Well before any switch to eDelivery begins, consumers would be given advance notice in the form of clear and readable paper disclosures about the move to digital disclosures. On top of that, consumers will be mailed reminders for 2 years that they can opt in to paper disclosures. Paper disclosures will always be an option for those who want them.

This a long overdue reform, especially when you consider that the Social Security Administration, the Federal Thrift Savings Plan, the Department of Labor, and the IRS have already advanced digital-first policies that have succeeded in providing Americans with more timely, secure, and engaging communications.

This is a pro-environment amendment. Congress can save millions of trees with this legislation. With each forest we cut down to deliver a disclosure to clog up both mailboxes and trash cans, we cause devastating impacts to our air, water, and the healthy planet future generations deserve to grow up on.

American financial markets are the most sophisticated in the world. While some are finding innovative ways to

harness the speed and reliability of today's technology for everyday investors, the SEC's regulatory construct still uses an outdated mode of sharing information: paper.

Despite the convenience and security of the internet, we are not removing paper as an option. That choice remains. I believe it is incumbent upon Congress to modernize regulations in our capital markets.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment, to do the right thing for consumers, the planet, and the market.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Chair, may I inquire of the time remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Michigan has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Chair, virtually every Federal agency, including the IRS and the Social Security Administration, have moved to electronic delivery. Why? Because older Americans have rapidly adopted internet technology in recent years, including 96 percent of those between the ages of 50 and 65, of which I am, and over three-quarters of those over the age of 65.

In fact, in a recent AARP study about retirement plan account holders' views on electronic versus paper accounts, 91 percent of the people were comfortable using the internet to log in and view financial accounts and 94 percent used the internet daily.

I understand the AARP has some concerns with this legislation. We have attempted to address those through the ranking member. Unfortunately, their solution so radically changes the scope of the bill that it undercuts the entire intent of this.

As I have said before, if you want paper, you will receive paper. If you want an electronic copy, you will receive an electronic copy. It is disingenuous to say anything else. If you don't have internet access, or if you choose to receive paper, you will get it.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The name of this amendment, Improving Disclosure for Investors, is an oxymoron. It does absolutely nothing to improve disclosure for investors. Rather, by forcing them to opt in to paper filings, it would make it more difficult, if not impossible, for many investors to see what fees they pay for their funds, brokerage accounts, and retirement savings. Instead of having easy, instant access via paper copies, they would need to go online to search for that information.

This amendment is more appropriately called the improving Wall Street profits at the expense of retail investors act.

I strongly urge my colleagues to protect elderly investors and to vote "no" on this amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Michigan will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. LUCAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in part B of House Report 118-407.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION D—ENHANCEMENT OF 403(b) PLANS

SEC. 4101. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the "Retirement Fairness for Charities and Educational Institutions Act of 2024".

SEC. 4102. ENHANCEMENT OF 403(b) PLANS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940.—Section 3(c)(11) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)(11)) is amended to read as follows:

"(11) Any—

"(A) employee's stock bonus, pension, or profit-sharing trust which meets the requirements for qualification under section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

"(B) custodial account meeting the requirements of section 403(b)(7) of such Code;

"(C) governmental plan described in section 3(a)(2)(C) of the Securities Act of 1933;

"(D) collective trust fund maintained by a bank consisting solely of assets of one or more—

"(i) trusts described in subparagraph (A);

"(ii) government plans described in subparagraph (C);

"(iii) church plans, companies, or accounts that are excluded from the definition of an investment company under paragraph (14) of this subsection; or

"(iv) plans which meet the requirements of section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986—

"(I) if—

"(aa) such plan is subject to title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.);

"(bb) any employer making such plan available agrees to serve as a fiduciary for the plan with respect to the selection of the plan's investments among which participants can choose; or

"(cc) such plan is a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of such Code); and

"(II) if the employer, a fiduciary of the plan, or another person acting on behalf of the employer reviews and approves each investment alternative offered under such plan described under subclause (I)(cc) prior to the investment being offered to participants in the plan; or

"(E) separate account the assets of which are derived solely from—

"(i) contributions under pension or profit-sharing plans which meet the requirements of section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the requirements for deduction of the employer's contribution under section 404(a)(2) of such Code;

“(ii) contributions under governmental plans in connection with which interests, participations, or securities are exempted from the registration provisions of section 5 of the Securities Act of 1933 by section 3(a)(2)(C) of such Act;

“(iii) advances made by an insurance company in connection with the operation of such separate account; and

“(iv) contributions to a plan described in clause (iii) or (iv) of subparagraph (D).”

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933.—Section 3(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77c(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking “beneficiaries, or (D)” and inserting “beneficiaries, (D) a plan which meets the requirements of section 403(b) of such Code (i) if (I) such plan is subject to title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), (II) any employer making such plan available agrees to serve as a fiduciary for the plan with respect to the selection of the plan’s investments among which participants can choose, or (III) such plan is a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of such Code), and (ii) if the employer, a fiduciary of the plan, or another person acting on behalf of the employer reviews and approves each investment alternative offered under any plan described under clause (i)(III) prior to the investment being offered to participants in the plan, or (E)”;

(2) by striking “(C), or (D)” and inserting “(C), (D), or (E)”;

(3) by striking “(iii) which is a plan funded” and all that follows through “retirement income account.” and inserting “(iii) in the case of a plan not described in subparagraph (D) or (E), which is a plan funded by an annuity contract described in section 403(b) of such Code”.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.—Section 3(a)(12)(C) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(12)(C)) is amended—

(1) by striking “or (iv)” and inserting “(iv) a plan which meets the requirements of section 403(b) of such Code (I) if (aa) such plan is subject to title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), (bb) any employer making such plan available agrees to serve as a fiduciary for the plan with respect to the selection of the plan’s investments among which participants can choose, or (cc) such plan is a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of such Code), and (II) if the employer, a fiduciary of the plan, or another person acting on behalf of the employer reviews and approves each investment alternative offered under any plan described under subclause (I)(cc) prior to the investment being offered to participants in the plan, or (v)”;

(2) by striking “(ii), or (iii)” and inserting “(ii), (iii), or (iv)”;

(3) by striking “(II) is a plan funded” and inserting “(II) in the case of a plan not described in clause (iv), is a plan funded”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934.—Section 12(g)(2)(H) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78l(g)(2)(H)) is amended by striking “or (iii)” and inserting “(iii) a plan described in section 3(a)(12)(C)(iv) of this Act, or (iv)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1052, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

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

One of the most difficult decisions a worker will ever undertake is determining how to save for retirement. This requires an individual to forecast decades into the future, ensuring one has the ability to navigate through life, family, and economic events.

For many teachers and nonprofit employees, their retirement savings are through 403(b) plans. However, these public servants in 403(b) plans are unable to benefit from the same cost-effective investment products that are available in all other plans, including 401(k) plans, government 457(b) plans, and the Federal Thrift Savings Plan.

Since the creation of 403(b) retirement plans back in 1958, there have been many changes to how we save for retirement, both in the law and the overall economy.

This amendment will allow 403(b) plans the ability to invest in collective investment trusts, or CITs, and insurance company separate accounts.

CITs and insurance company separate accounts are both pooled investment vehicles sponsored and maintained by a bank or trust company, or an insurance company, respectively.

This measure originated in SECURE 2.0 last Congress, which passed the House Ways and Means Committee unanimously. The SECURE 2.0 Act that ultimately became law included the required changes to the tax code but did not include the necessary changes to securities law.

The data speaks for itself. During the past 10 years, 401(k) plan assets increased by 88 percent, government 457(b) plans increased by 82 percent, but total assets in 403(b) plans only increased by 46 percent.

We have for too long limited the investment options made available to public servants, and this bill will allow for much-needed consistency across retirement plans.

This measure received broad bipartisan support in the Financial Services Committee, and I thank Congressman GOTTHEIMER of New Jersey and Congressman FOSTER of Illinois for joining me on this amendment.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment, sponsored by Mr. LUCAS, would be better titled the retirement hazard for charities and educational institutions amendment because it puts the retirement savings of public interest professionals at risk.

403(b) retirement plans cater to teachers, school administrators, professors, nonprofit employees, and healthcare workers. These individuals dedicate their lives to the public interest. They invest in the future of our

children. They ensure we get the healthcare we need, even during a global pandemic, and too often, they aren’t paid nearly enough to do the work that they do.

There are current restrictions on how 403(b) plans can invest their assets, and this is to ensure that these retirement accounts are generally safe investments. However, this amendment would allow 403(b) plans to invest in two types of risky, unregistered securities: collective investment trusts, or CITs, which is a type of pooled investment vehicle, and insurance products called variable annuities, both of which are considered fairly risky products for unsophisticated investors.

Madam Chair, under this amendment, neither of these products would be subject to regulation or oversight by the SEC.

More than half of all 403(b) plans are not covered by ERISA protections, meaning that this newly allowed risky investment activity would also escape the oversight of the Department of Labor.

While Republicans claim they are creating parity with 401(k) plans, this is simply untrue because all 401(k) plans are, in fact, covered by ERISA. To create true parity, we would need to restrict the sale of CITs and variable annuities to only 403(b) plans covered by ERISA.

All in all, this amendment would carve out over \$1.4 trillion of retirement funds from Federal oversight. This would constitute the single largest deregulation of our capital markets in years.

Ultimately, this amendment would put the hard-earned retirement savings of public interest professionals at risk. That is why I strongly oppose it.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

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Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the gentleman from Oklahoma’s amendment.

Under current law, Americans participating in 401(k) plans through their employer may invest their retirement accounts in collective investment trusts, CITs, and insurance company separate accounts that are exempt from the SEC’s registration requirements. This exemption from SEC registration allows these products to be offered at lower costs.

However, teachers, nurses, janitors, and charity workers who participate in 403(b) plans are currently denied access to the cost-effective investments available to private workers in 401(k) plans. Importantly, investment options in a 403(b) plan are always selected by the private or public employer. As such, this amendment does not allow direct retail sales to individuals.

Moreover, unregistered does not mean unregulated. It simply means

that investment products available to 403(b) plans will not have to register with the SEC and, thus, will not have to provide a lengthy prospectus document to accompany the filing, thus keeping costs appropriately low.

The amendment preserves important protections for investors in 403(b) plans.

Mr. LUCAS' amendment is a thoughtful and balanced bill to allow employees of nonprofit charities and public educational institutions in 403(b) plans to have access to the same low-cost investments available to employees of for-profit companies and other employees in 401(k) plans.

This amendment is co-led in a bipartisan fashion with support from my colleagues across the aisle, Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. FOSTER. On top of that, the bill this amendment is based on, the Retirement Fairness for Charities and Educational Institutions Act, passed out of the Financial Services Committee last year with very strong bipartisan support.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Chair, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Chair, I simply wish to say that I have the greatest respect for the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, but I would note we simply disagree on this amendment.

I believe it is a very effective way to provide equity amongst the various retirement accounts, and it is important that teachers and public service people have the same opportunity to grow their savings so that they, too, can enjoy the best possible golden years.

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

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Chair, by allowing unregistered financial professionals to sell unregistered products to 403(b) plans, this amendment would leave America's teachers, healthcare workers, and other public interest professionals vulnerable to losing their retirement funds.

Neither of the two unregistered products contemplated nor the sales of these products would be subject to regulation or oversight by the SEC, which allows them to skirt investor protections and exposes plan participants to greater risk of loss. Congress must do everything in its power to ensure our teachers and dedicated public servants have a comfortable retirement, but this amendment would do anything but that.

Madam Chair, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MRS. WAGNER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in part B of House Report Number 118-407.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

DIVISION D—INCREASING INVESTOR OPPORTUNITIES

SEC. 4001. CLOSED-END COMPANY AUTHORITY TO INVEST IN PRIVATE FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-5) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) CLOSED-END COMPANY AUTHORITY TO INVEST IN PRIVATE FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise prohibited or restricted by this Act (or any rule issued under this Act), the Commission may not prohibit or otherwise limit a closed-end company from investing any or all of the assets of the closed-end company in securities issued by private funds.

“(2) OTHER RESTRICTIONS ON COMMISSION AUTHORITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise prohibited or restricted by this Act (or any rule issued under this Act) or to the extent permitted by subparagraph (B), the Commission may not impose any condition on, restrict, or otherwise limit—

“(i) the offer to sell, or the sale of, securities issued by a closed-end company that invests, or proposes to invest, in securities issued by private funds; or

“(ii) the listing of the securities of a closed-end company described in clause (i) on a national securities exchange.

“(B) UNRELATED RESTRICTIONS.—The Commission may impose a condition on, restrict, or otherwise limit an activity described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) if that condition, restriction or limitation is unrelated to the underlying characteristics of a private fund or the status of a private fund as a private fund.

“(3) APPLICATION.—Notwithstanding section 6(f), this subsection shall also apply to a closed-end company that elects to be treated as a business development company pursuant to section 54.”

(b) DEFINITION OF PRIVATE FUND.—Section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-2(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(55) The term ‘private fund’ has the meaning given in section 202(a) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-2(a)).”

(c) TREATMENT BY NATIONAL SECURITIES EXCHANGES.—Section 6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(m)(1) Except as otherwise prohibited or restricted by rules of the exchange that are consistent with section 5(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-5(d)), an exchange may not prohibit, condition, restrict, or impose any other limitation on the listing or trading of the securities of a closed-end company when the closed-end company invests, or may invest, some or all of the assets of the closed-end company in securities issued by private funds.

“(2) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘closed-end company’—

“(i) has the meaning given the term in section 5(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-5(a)); and

“(ii) includes a closed-end company that elects to be treated as a business development company pursuant to section 54 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-53); and

“(B) the term ‘private fund’ has the meaning given the term in section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-2(a)).”

(d) INVESTMENT LIMITATION.—Section 3(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the second sentence, by striking “subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B)(i)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A)(i), (B)(i), and (C)”; and

(2) in paragraph (7)(D), by striking “subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B)(i)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A)(i), (B)(i), and (C)”.

(e) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section may be construed to limit or amend any fiduciary duty owed to a closed-end company (as defined in section 5(a)(2) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-5(a)(2))) or by an investment adviser (as defined under section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-2(a))) to a closed-end company.

(2) Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section may be construed to limit or amend the valuation, liquidity, or redemption requirements or obligations of a closed-end company (as defined in section 5(a)(2) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-5(a)(2))) as required by the Investment Company Act of 1940.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1052, the gentleman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, closed-end funds are a popular tool for everyday investors who gain exposure to private markets in a safe, appropriately regulated way. Approximately 3 million Americans rely on these products to build wealth and save for retirement.

Like other investment options available to Americans looking to save for retirement, send their kids to college, or plan for the future, closed-end funds must comply with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the Investment Company Act of 1940.

To satisfy their regulatory obligations, closed-end funds must, among other things, register with the SEC, file annual and semiannual reports, and comply with stringent valuation and disclosure requirements. They are also subject to the broad antifraud provisions of the Federal securities laws, which provide additional protections to investors.

Unfortunately, an SEC staff position prevents registered closed-end funds from investing more than 15 percent of their total assets in private funds. This arbitrary restriction is especially harmful to low-income and middle-

class Americans who rely on appropriately regulated products like closed-end funds to access high-growth investment opportunities.

In substituting their own judgments for those of financial professionals, SEC bureaucrats have taken another step toward reserving safe access to investment opportunities for wealthy, accredited investors.

My amendment, which mirrors my bipartisan Increasing Investor Opportunities Act, would remove this arbitrary SEC staff position and allow investment professionals to determine which investments a closed-end fund should make. This would increase investment opportunities for millions of Americans and eliminate unnecessary barriers restricting investor access.

Madam Chair, I thank my Democratic friends across the aisle, including Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. NICKEL, for their bipartisan support of my bill on which this amendment is based.

Last year, the Financial Services Committee passed the same text that is in this amendment with strong bipartisan support. I am proud of this legislation and our committee's unwavering commitment to expanding investment opportunities for all Americans.

Madam Chair, I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, this amendment would be better titled increasing investor risks.

Currently, closed-end funds, which are a type of mutual fund, are only allowed to invest up to 15 percent of their assets into private funds. This current limit of 15 percent gives closed-end funds some flexibility to invest in private funds but establishes a reasonable restriction, considering private funds are subject to less regulation and disclosure. This restriction also accounts for the fact that private funds invest in fledgling startups and distressed companies, which are significantly more risky than public securities, and most of their investments fail.

Mrs. WAGNER's amendment would eliminate the restriction on closed-end fund investments into private funds, allowing them to invest up to 100 percent of their assets into private funds. Moreover, the amendment provides zero safeguards to mitigate the new risks created by this blunt deregulation.

Like all the rest of the capital markets-related amendments before us today, this one is opposed by investor groups, consumer and investor advocates, and State regulators.

For these reasons, Madam Chair, I oppose this amendment. I urge my col-

leagues to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS).

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Chair, at this time, I am pleased to offer this bipartisan amendment with my friend from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) along with the support of my colleagues Mr. SCOTT and Mr. NICKEL.

This amendment would provide opportunities for enhanced exposure to private funds through closed-end funds, investment vehicles with comprehensive protections under the 1940 Investment Company Act. These rules include the mandatory requirement that the fund be managed by an investment adviser who is required to conduct due diligence on a fund's investments, answer to independent directors, and adhere to extensive disclosure and reporting requirements.

This amendment also makes clear that investors should be given access to the growth opportunities provided in the private markets so long as they have proper disclosures and risk mitigation.

I am happy to sponsor this bipartisan amendment primarily because it also broadens opportunities and increases access for people who have been left out in the past while ensuring that robust rules of the road are followed.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, the closed-end funds are a very popular tool for everyday investors who gain exposure to private markets in a safe, appropriately regulated way.

As I said, approximately 3 million Americans rely on these products to build wealth and save for retirement.

Madam Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Chair, as I stated, the assets that private funds purchase are significantly more risky than public securities. In fact, 9 out of every 10 of their investments fail.

Allowing closed-end funds to invest all of their assets into private funds can be risky for America's retirement savers, who should be able to trust that these funds are safe investments for them to save for retirement.

As such, Madam Chair, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by

the gentlewoman from Missouri will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. SHERMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in part B of House Report 118-407.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 38, strike line 21 and all that follows through page 39, line 6 and insert the following:

"(iii) with respect to a proposed transaction involving a private offering, any individual if—

"(I) the amount of such transaction is not more than 5 percent of the net worth of the individual (excluding the primary residence of the individual); and

"(II) the aggregate investment of the individual at the completion of such transaction, in securities with respect to which there has not been a public offering, is not more than 25 percent of the net worth of the individual (excluding the primary residence of the individual);"

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 1052, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Chair, in the debate on the bill in chief, the chair of the full committee correctly criticized the definition of accredited investor as it occurs under current law.

Accredited investor is an important concept in securities law because, Madam Chair, when you have a private offering, one that hasn't gone through the SEC process, the amount that can be raised and the number of investors you can have are related to, in large part, how many of your investors are accredited.

The current definition makes you an accredited investor if you earn over \$200,000 a year or have a net worth of more than \$1 million. Frankly, the fact that you have that level of income or that level of wealth does not show that you have particular expertise or that your adviser team has particular expertise. While it certainly shows that you are in a position to absorb a loss, no one can afford to absorb a loss of 100 percent of their net worth.

We need a different definition of accredited investor, one that does not limit that status just to those who happen to be wealthy or have a high income.

The bill before us here does provide that different definition by saying you are an accredited investor, first, if you acknowledge the risks that you are taking and, second, if you are investing less than 10 percent of your net worth in the securities offering so that you can afford a loss on what, after all, is a higher risk—as many people have pointed out—offering about which you get less information.

The problem with the bill in chief using that 10 percent standard is twofold. First, it includes in your net

worth your primary residence. If you happen to have a \$1 million home, you could take out a \$100,000 mortgage on it and invest all \$100,000 in one relatively risky investment.

□ 1800

Mr. SHERMAN. You have literally bet your house on an investment that is of a type that is risky and where you get less information and where the investment is illiquid. That is not good investor protection.

What this amendment does is it says, yes, we are going to look at what portion of your net worth you are investing, but we are going to take a look first at your net worth excluding your primary residence because very few people feel they can afford to lose their house; second, that you cannot invest more than 10 percent of your net worth in any single offering or more than 25 percent of your net worth in all these private offerings.

Therefore, we look at wealth, excluding your home so you don't risk losing your home, and we look at not only how much you are investing in the particular investment, but how much you are investing overall.

I want to correct one thing. This amendment limits it to, excluding your primary residence, 5 percent of your net worth on any one private offering, and no more than 25 percent of your net worth, excluding your primary residence, on all such private offerings.

Madam Chair, I urge adoption of this amendment. I think it gives us a better definition of those who can afford the risks and the risk of liquidity that comes with these private investments.

The risk of liquidity is there. You may think, well, I made an investment and it is going to pan out, but if you need the money and you can't liquidate the investment on a fair basis, it is almost as if the investment failed.

Therefore, we are talking higher risk, less liquidity. We limit it under this amendment to 5 percent of your net worth on any one deal, 25 percent of your net worth on all such deals. Also, when we look at your net worth, we exclude your personal residence. These are not situations where you should be betting your home.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Missouri is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Chair, a key tenet of H.R. 2799 is to increase access to investment opportunities for everyday investors.

Under the guise of investor protection, this amendment would arbitrarily limit the amount nonaccredited investors can invest in a private offering to 5 percent of an individual's net worth.

In the Expanding Access to Capital Act, the investment cap for a single private offering is set at 10 percent of the investor's net assets or annual in-

come, whichever is greater. Instead of using a number just pulled out of thin air, the 10 percent cap in the bill is rooted in precedent.

There is a 10 percent cap for non-accredited investors through offerings such as Regulation Crowdfunding and Reg A+. Why would we not go with the percentage cap that is already proven effective?

Additionally, this amendment would arbitrarily cap aggregate investments across private offerings for nonaccredited investors to no more than 25 percent of their net worth. This essentially says to everyday investors that the government knows better than you how to invest your hard-earned dollars.

As I previously said, and we heard from several witnesses at committee, wealth and income should not be a proxy for sophistication. Similarly, if we want to provide more Americans the opportunity to build wealth, we cannot keep them on the sidelines.

Private offerings are often the most high-growth investment opportunities, yet they are largely reserved for high-net-worth investors. This enshrines inequity and blatantly picks winners and losers.

If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are serious about equity and ownership in the American economy, they will join Republicans in providing more opportunities to everyday investors, not less.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Chair, let me respond to those comments.

The underlying bill acknowledges the fact that the government puts some restrictions on how much of your net worth you can put into one of these unregulated, risky, low-information, illiquid investments. Therefore, to say that we have clashed with some great principle of personal freedom in my amendment because it says 5 percent, but that it is consistent with the same great overriding principle of personal autonomy when you back a bill that says 10 percent, defies logic.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. LALOTA). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are serious about equity and ownership in the American economy, they will join Republicans in providing more opportunities to everyday investors, not less.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting CHAIR announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further pro-

ceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah) having assumed the chair, Mr. LALOTA, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2799) to make reforms to the capital markets of the United States, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LALOTA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, we have several Members who are going to have a chance to speak here tonight. Tonight, of course, ahead of tomorrow's State of the Union Address, Members will share about ways the Biden administration has failed their constituents, from the border crisis, to the spike in violent crime, to out-of-control inflation, and also a need to protect the most vulnerable among us, the unborn.

I am grateful to host tonight's Special Order and provide the opportunity to highlight important issues facing families in every district.

I have said this for the last few years. As I have watched—and of course it is a political metric—I have seen the approval rating continue to decline and to decline and to decline from what we have seen from President Biden. It shows you that the American people are watching, and this is affecting their everyday lives.

For the most part—I would hope this to be the case—most Americans aren't necessarily paying attention to a lot of what we are doing here, and I hope they are happier and better off for it. A lot of the stuff that we do here doesn't necessarily resonate with them. They get frustrated with a lot of what we do here.

However, when you see that type of reaction from the American people, it is showing that the policies from the Biden administration are directly impacting and hurting their everyday lives. They are seeing it in so many different ways in their communities, in their families.

I am hopeful that, in my role as vice chair of the Republican Conference, I am committed to doing it and helping other Members credibly communicate how this is affecting their constituents' lives.

Additionally, today, we use that opportunity to be able to share a little bit about what is going on and hopefully offer some solutions, as well, to how we can better address this and how we can counteract so many of President Biden's failed policies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), to kick things off tonight.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration took a bad situation at our southern border and turned it into a complete and utter disaster that puts Americans in danger every day. It is often said that every State is a border State, and that is very much the case, as we see now.

There is no way on God's green Earth that President Biden can spin this any other way. The President can blame it on Trump, blame it on the Republicans, but, for the last 3 years, Mr. Speaker, dadgummit, he has been in control of this.

We recently learned that, in 2023, the Biden administration flew 320,000 illegal aliens into 43 airports across the United States. Let me say that again—320,000 illegals into 43 airports across the United States. Mr. Speaker, that is in your backyard. That is in my backyard. That is all across our great country. They pay for these flights with the American people's tax dollars.

Unfortunately, this latest stunt is not nearly as surprising as it should be. Since Joe Biden took office, over 10 million illegal immigrants have crossed into the United States. What is most troubling to me in all of that, Mr. Speaker, 100,000 children are in the system somewhere.

Additionally, these cartels, they are evil, and they are from the pits of hell, and it would be my desire to send them back as soon as possible. Mr. Speaker, 100,000 children are somewhere in this system, possibly sold into labor, possibly victims of sex crimes, possibly victims of many other horrendous acts.

There have also been 8.7 million illegal alien encounters, plus 1.7 million got-aways. Every day, we are hearing about Americans who are hurt or killed at the hands of illegal immigrants. These are people who were released into the United States without being properly checked, and Americans are suffering because of it. A dear family that is very close to me back in Knoxville, they lost their son because of this.

This week, the House is voting on the Laken Riley Act, which was named after a young woman who was brutally murdered by an illegal immigrant. He had been arrested three times before and, yet, he was still released back into the United States each time. He was a

criminal in his homeland. He is a criminal up here. He should have been deported the first time, Mr. Speaker. If he had, that young girl would be alive today.

The Biden administration is inviting illegal immigrants into this country with its open-border policies. We have magnetized this country. We allow the giving of credit cards, free healthcare. We put them ahead of our veterans. We put them ahead of our citizens, and that is disgusting.

The Biden Administration has been actively fighting the border States that are trying to fix the problem. It has gone as far as filing lawsuits. They are using your tax dollars to fly immigrants into every State, including Tennessee, without telling the American people what they are doing.

Mr. Speaker, it is unacceptable, and we need to close the dadgum border.

□ 1815

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his comments. Of course, when they become personal stories is when they become the most tragic.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN).

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Utah for yielding. I appreciate it.

It is just on a small bit of house-keeping business. I will be removing my name as cosponsor on H. Res. 902. My name was added to this as a cosponsor without my knowledge, without my consent.

I knew nothing about it, and that was at 6:18:38 yesterday and 1 second before another Member was also falsely added as a cosponsor to this legislation.

So I am going to work with the Clerk's office and the majority and the minority leader to just figure out how this is happening. Apparently, it has happened to some other people. I hope this can be removed immediately and that we can prevent this from happening to anyone else.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for yielding.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for his remarks. It has happened to me before as well, so he is welcomed for being able to clear that up.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank Mr. MOORE for being gracious and allowing me this time. We need to see more of that between both sides of the aisle, and I thank him very much, sir.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man, my father, Congressman Donald Payne, Sr.

Today is the 12th anniversary of his passing from colorectal cancer, and his life was filled with tremendous accomplishments. He was New Jersey's first Black Congressman and served as the Chair of the Congressional Black Cau-

cus. He helped decide House Committee representation as a member of the Democratic Steering Committee, and also fought to restore democracy and human rights worldwide as a member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

President George W. Bush made him the first two-time member of the congressional delegation to the United Nations, and he earned an "A" for his work to protect and strengthen the middle class. He was an outstanding Congressman, mentor, and role model, but he was ten times a better father.

My heart is heavy today as I mourn my father. I do miss him so, and I thank the gentleman, once again, for yielding.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman from New Jersey that that was the easiest request I have had all year. I appreciate hearing the stories of his father and I, of course, offer my condolences to him. It is an honor to be able to hear stories of his father's extraordinary life and service. I thank him, sir.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this time and opportunity to be able to share more of what we are trying to highlight this week.

It is a very important week as is any State of the Union and every State of the Union should be important. Regardless of your party affiliation, this is a moment to hear from our President and to compare and contrast in a lot of cases policy differences, but also highlight where it is that we do agree.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE), the current gold medal standard bearer in our competition. I am having a Tennessee heavy day today.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah, Vice Chairman MOORE, for yielding and for claiming this time this evening to discuss these important issues facing our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, the President of the United States will appear in this Chamber to deliver his annual State of the Union Address and, hopefully, his last.

I say this because since the President has taken office, prices have risen by 17.9 percent, according to the Consumer Price Index. If you ask the folks I represent in Tennessee, they have gone up far more than that.

Compared to just 3 years ago, Americans are spending an extra \$1,019 a month and real wages are down by more than 2 percent thanks to the Biden administration's economic policies. I believe the President calls it Bidenomics.

Since taking the majority, House Republicans have fought tirelessly to rein in the Biden administration's reckless spending that has caused record-high inflation, the highest inflation since I was just a junior in high school back in the early 1980s.

A lot of left-leaning political pundits will criticize this Congress for not following in the footsteps of the last Congress, which was led entirely by Democrats that passed multiple spending

monstrosities, but I will argue that it is a job well done by Republicans to hold the line and not give in to the Democrats' insatiable desire to recklessly borrow money from future generations of Americans and spend it on projects like Green New Deal initiatives and an army of new IRS agents.

These economic policies pursued by the Biden administration have made it harder than ever before for new home buyers to purchase a home. Even one out of eight retirees plan to return to work in 2024, according to a recent survey. They largely cite inflation as the main reason for doing so.

Mr. Speaker, Americans should not be subjected to the constant threat of rising prices wreaking havoc on their paychecks and pocketbooks. As our national deficit and debts exponentially increase due to rising interest rates, our country has no choice other than to restore fiscal common sense in Washington. That is why House Republicans are leading the way to do exactly that.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee and I appreciate his message and his involvement as we try to use this medium to communicate with the American people. Oftentimes, a cable news interview here or there gets a lot more hits than social media, but we need to be speaking to the American people from the House floor and this is a great opportunity to do so.

I am going to share in buckets a message that I hope that I can really drive home. My whole entire objective for being back here, personally, not necessarily in my role as vice chair of the Conference, but my personal objective to be back here is to rein in wasteful spending and to deal with our debt and deficit crisis that we are facing.

I will get a chance this evening to share more context for that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS), the Chairwoman of the Energy and Commerce Committee from the greatest half of the country out West with me. We get overlooked quite a bit. I hear some scoffing going on in the Chamber, but we all know that it is very important and the entire Nation is reliant on the West for things that matter, second only to tourism, but all the other critical things that we need.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding and I appreciate him bringing us together here tonight.

We are all in anticipation of the State of the Union, and for the Republicans in the House, certainly, you have outlined some priorities, we also are a party of life and celebrating life.

Tonight, I wanted to highlight the importance of really honoring the lives of everyone, that every life has value. Our son, Cole McMorris Rodgers, was born with an extra 21st chromosome. Now most of the world knows that as Down syndrome. I can honestly say that seeing the world through Cole's

eyes has made me a better mom, but also a better legislator. I am reminded every day whenever I meet with anyone connected to the Down syndrome community as to the full potential that is just waiting to be unleashed.

Unfortunately, in the Biden administration, we have seen them leading on a pretty radical pro-abortion agenda that bolsters a culture which fails to protect the most innocent among us. It does not affirm that every life is worth living, lives like Cole's.

That is why I am leading alongside my Republican colleagues to champion legislation that supports women and children at every stage of their lives. That is what we are committed to. We have led on legislation this Congress like the Preventing Maternal Deaths Reauthorization Act, the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act, and the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act.

Just recently, the House passed a bill that I had worked on, the QALYs bill, that would prohibit QALYs within the Federal Government and it would ensure that those with disabilities with chronic diseases have lifesaving cures and access to prevent discrimination against these individuals when it comes to their healthcare.

We still have work to do in our Nation, all across this country to ensure that women feel like an abortion is never their only option and we can do that by making sure that we are providing care, hope, and support for mothers and children at every stage of their lives. Every life is worth living.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time tonight in leading us this week in the Special Order.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Washington for her remarks.

As Members of this body know, we began this year, the U.S. national debt, surpassing \$34 trillion. We have seen Members from both sides of the aisle talk about this extensively. We have had debates on this growing national debt for decades now and as I mentioned moments ago, it is the reason I am back here.

It is the reason that I missed my son's little league playoffs last night, which they made it to the championship and suffered a tough loss, but they played their hearts out. The only way that I can go back home and tell my 11-year-old, hey, son, sorry for missing your little league game here and there and the many games that I have to miss is because I can also counter that with I am doing everything I possibly can to make sure that your future mimics what my future looked like.

Candidly, mine is even going to be in a position of very heavy debt in my major working years, but we have to recognize that this will limit our next generation more than any other factor. The fact that interest alone will be the second largest budget line item in our Federal outlays within a year or two is the most concerning thing that keeps me up at night.

Yes, I will continue to talk about this. I will continue to debate this. I sit on the Ways and Means and Budget Committees, which I believe is where the vast majority of the work can be done here.

Ways and Means because it covers the programs, the large government programs that get established and never voted on again. In Budget we can set the tone, we can set the stage for what we all try to coalesce around as the people's House.

This debt puts a strain on not only the country's finances, but American families' pocketbooks. It goes particularly to what we saw with inflation. As I entered into Congress in 2021, January 2021, just a few months after President Biden or maybe a month or two after President Biden took office, and the Senate had just switched to Democrat controlled, so Senator SCHUMER took over as majority leader in the Senate and Republicans had a very strong November few months prior to that, but didn't quite take over the majority, what took place in Congress, in Washington is what you call one-party rule.

During one-party rule, what you are allowed to do is every budget cycle—and it is a little bit of a gray area, but once a budget cycle, you can pass a bill on party-line votes. You don't need the filibuster in the Senate anymore. You can bypass that and you can go big with your legislation.

Republicans and Democrats have used this over time. President Biden decided to use this for what is called the American Rescue Plan. The American Rescue Plan in its entirety was basically a \$2 trillion bill that had no offset spending and was directly related to the inflationary pressures that our Nation experienced after that.

□ 1830

Inflation happens because of the monetary supply issue, with too much money chasing too few goods. That is what that bill was. It was a massively inflationary bill.

It wasn't the only cause. We were coming out of COVID. We were having supply chain issues. Those were all factors. We saw 40-year high inflation, and it was just months after the congressional Democrats and President Biden, on party-line votes, passed the American Rescue Plan. It wasn't much of a rescue. We saw 17-plus percent inflation, and that varied among different types of goods and services, but it was insane. The American people bore the entire brunt of that.

To tame this inflation, how you do this, the Fed goes through their process. They raise interest rates. That is a significant factor in how you tame inflation. However, the other piece that was not coincidental, Republicans took back control of the House of Representatives. With that, we were able to clamp down on President Biden's massive spending initiatives, from the Inflation Reduction Act to the American

Rescue Plan. Those were two of the largest that went fully on party-line votes.

In addition were all the other things that were in the works and needed to be addressed. Some even earned bipartisan support, but the \$5 trillion—we were talking about over \$5 trillion of new spending—directly goes to massive inflationary pressure. Republicans clamped all of that down.

Then we went through the process of the Fiscal Responsibility Act. Last June, Speaker McCarthy negotiated a way to take a look at our appropriations process, among many other things, like permitting reform and other things that were very positive out of that bill and actually find a way to do what has not been done in my time here for sure, but probably within the last decade when you could take a look at our appropriations process and say, look, let's continue to support defense and veterans, and let's find wasteful spending in the other 10 or so bills that go through the appropriations process.

We did part of that today where we were actually able to break that trend of maintaining parity between those two things. That has been something that has been important to my Democratic colleagues: If we are going to support defense and veterans, you need to also make sure that you support all these other bills.

We were able to break that parity between the two and find real wasteful spending that was going on, and we came together. We came together today in an overwhelmingly positive vote to finish a portion of the appropriations process and find more wasteful spending. We are going to put that on a lower trajectory.

With House Republicans being in the majority, our plan is to clamp down on the massive spending proposals that you saw from President Biden in his first term; and then as a secondary approach, we are going to take the normal things that we do back here, the things that are a part of the standard of what we do need to accomplish with an annual budget and find areas of waste, and we have been able to successfully do that.

I love being a part of that. I came back here, like I mentioned, to deal with our growing debt and our deficit, find wasteful spending and create policies that don't do what happened in 2021 and 2022. President Biden took over with inflation in the range of less than 2 percent, and it climbed more rapid than anything. We are still feeling the struggles with that. Homeowners who are trying to purchase a home are paying mortgage rates that they shouldn't have to be paying that are so incredibly high. That was the reaction to that massive inflation, and that comes directly from Washington and from bad policy.

House Republicans effectively forced President Biden to recognize it and kind of put that on hold. We did our

part with respect to inflation by controlling the monetary supply. You have to raise interest rates and you have to control the monetary supply because massive government spending always leads to inflation. Every economist will agree on that. They don't usually agree on much. Our job the last year and change has been to be able to show the American people how we are being responsible on a fiscal footing.

Some other ways the Republicans are working to lower costs for families and taxpayers include fighting back against President Biden's student loan agenda. The administration has attempted to circumvent the rule of law and leave hardworking Americans who didn't go to college with a \$559 billion bill to cover these unpaid student loans. In December, House Republicans passed legislation that would put a stop to this reckless and unfair proposal.

House Republicans have also led the charge on a progrowth tax policy.

Before I get into that, I get this question a lot when I go and do townhalls back home, and I love to be able to engage on this concept of student loans. For the most part, particularly in Utah, people are categorically frustrated with President Biden just forgiving loans years after the fact. That approach was deemed unconstitutional. Then he has taken another angle, and he keeps trying to do this.

My opinion on this—and I believe it would be strongly backed by good research and data—is that if the government is just going to forgive loans, A, you obviously have more of a deficit issue because those loans have been given out in a government-spending approach knowing that some of that would ultimately come back with whatever interest is charged on those things.

If we just forgive that, there is obviously a deficit issue there, but if you forgive that, another aspect is we are creating a culture, and it is going to teach my children that there are no consequences. It is like: You will be fine. At some point this will be forgiven, and you don't necessarily have to plan and be productive with this. I think that resonates with most people, particularly back in my home State.

The third piece is something that I get into a lot with a lot of folks that they are not necessarily thinking of. The fundamental problem with what is going on with all of our entire student loans, student tuition universe is that tuition costs are rising so fast that students are having a tough time getting out ahead of it.

If we, as a Federal Government, signal to those institutions, those educational institutions, hey, you know, we know you have been raising your rates a lot, but we are also just going to start forgiving a lot of this stuff, do you think that puts pressure on those institutions to actually keep their costs under control, to constrain what they are doing?

No. They are feeling that they can actually continue to raise rates as well because people are going to be more inclined to just borrow more.

Folks, that is a recipe for disaster. It is a bad cultural aspect, but it does not communicate to the institutions. I love representing the universities that I do back in Utah. I know my colleagues are so sick and tired of me talking about how great Utah is, when I hide behind numbers like first in economy and first in volunteerism, and all these amazing things that we are first in—I am getting some looks here right now—but they deep down know how amazing Utah is.

My intent on this is not just completely boastful—that is part of it—but to just highlight the fact that universities across the State of Utah are heavily focused on ROI. You can go and speak to their administration and hear about what they are doing: dynamic credentialing, a dual-mission program.

Before I sound so ruthless by saying we shouldn't forgive loans, the State legislature in Utah—a very strongly conservative State legislature—has provided an opportunity for juniors and seniors in high school to have free tuition at tech centers so they can go learn to be an EMT or a welder. They can go learn to have a skill or trade, a computer science degree, work in audiovisual. They can take that and if they want to create a career out of it, being an apprentice electrician, a plumber, they have an opportunity to go and start building their career. If they take that and start doing that work, they are actually going off to a 4-year degree where they are working at a higher-paying job keeping their tuition down. All of our universities are focused on ROI. It is not out of just sheer, oh, I just don't like President Biden's tuition plan. It is not going to accomplish what it needs to accomplish.

I just want to continue to highlight these specific economic factors that we have enough information and data to prove: This is why inflation is caused, and this is how you get out of it. It is painful to get out of it, but I really do appreciate being part of the House Republican Conference that is controlling the monetary supply, limiting government spending, and signaling to the markets that we are trying to do something about this debt and deficit.

We are going to use the debt ceiling opportunity to say, look, in order for us to increase the debt limit, we are going to have to make changes, and we have got to actually implement some of that today. It has been an awesome thing.

I am happy to share all of this as much as I can. I will continue to do so, but we have the opportunity now to hear from the great State of Pennsylvania, Dr. JOYCE will share his message. I appreciate his constant involvement in making sure that we can use this opportunity and floor speeches to

communicate not only to his constituents but to those who are paying attention and willing to hear us out. We have so many things we want to be covering.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for holding this Special Order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, as I travel across central and southwestern Pennsylvania, I hear from families who are struggling to afford basic necessities, like gasoline and groceries. President Biden's crushing inflation has affected too many families in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, has affected too many families in Pennsylvania, has affected too many American families throughout this great land.

Instead of saving for retirement or for their children's education, parents are forced to make difficult choices about what they can afford to buy.

Recently, I spoke with a mom who told me she was often forced to choose between filling her gasoline tank or packing lunch for her son. Stories like this have become all too common thanks to the rising Biden inflation.

Under President Biden, prices have risen by 17 percent in the past 3 years, and real wages are down 2 percent. This is unsustainable for American families who are left to pay the price for the reckless spending sprees of the last 3 years.

In tomorrow's state of the Union Address, President Biden should outline deliberate ways to cut our national debt, a deliberate responsibility to be a responsible steward of the taxpayer dollar.

Inflation is a tax on each and every American, and it is time to return to fiscal responsibility. It is time to have cuts in spending in order to address our ballooning national debt.

I thank the gentleman for once again holding this Special Order this evening.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. I thank the good doctor from Pennsylvania. Now to another Western State, which we have established is so important to our Nation, all the factors that we provide to those East Coast elitists and everything east of the Mississippi.

I welcome the gentleman from California to share his message this evening. In tomorrow's state of the Union, we will hear from our President. We need to hear this message. Again, we will compare and contrast. We will find unity on certain things, but it is incredibly important for us as House Republicans to highlight the concerns that we have, which are many.

I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. MOORE's efforts to help communicate the message the American people need to see, not just tomorrow night from one side, but as best as we can maybe looking at the other side of the issues.

If you could look around the room here, you would see some of the special equipment for the event that is starting to be set up, extra cameras, lighting on the House floor so that it is illuminated in a way that shows up well on TV. Unfortunately, what is not illuminated well enough is the record of this White House in supporting the needs of our Nation.

With the State of the Union tomorrow night, these 3-plus years have been, indeed, chaotic, and you could even say a full-fledged crisis in the making or being made.

Over the last few years, President Biden has made a lot of decisions and implemented a lot of policies that have ultimately led to a 17.9 percent rise in inflation since he took office. The cost of rent, electricity, and household goods are actually becoming out of reach for many Americans.

How can these things become out of reach?

I grow food. I am a farmer in my real life in northern California at home. Food has always been for many, many decades for Americans such a low-cost item, they didn't even have to think about it.

□ 1845

Why is it reverting to a situation where we are more like a third world country and food is hard to afford? Energy, driving our cars around, the whole works, housing—housing is becoming almost unaffordable. What has changed?

Our Nation is less safe than before, with rising rates of carjackings and attacks on law enforcement officers. You are not safe in your home.

Right here in this town, in D.C., is an example of a carjacking affecting one of our colleagues in this body, attacked in what may seem like a fairly safe neighborhood. What is going on here?

Our country has been weakened on the world stage as well. President Biden caters to oil oligarchs in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Venezuela, and even Russia.

He hastily removed U.S. troops from Afghanistan, allowing the Taliban to take over after all those years of our side fighting for freedom in those areas and to have at least a modicum of a government that would work for people over there. On top of that, we needlessly lost the lives of over a dozen soldiers on that hasty, poorly planned withdrawal.

One of our other allies, one of our strongest allies in the whole world, Israel, he is walking back support for that great country, that great ally.

His Vice President, KAMALA HARRIS, basically threw Israel under the bus with her comments recently. What is this all about? What are we going to hear in the State of the Union that you could actually point to as a positive?

I hate to be negative. I hate to be, like, oh, partisan stuff that you can't find agreement on this or that, but it is really difficult with the state of things,

from what the United States was 3 years ago, even amidst that COVID mess, to what we have now.

Unfortunately, the President has been chipping away even at our Nation's sovereignty. He has taken dozens of well-documented and concrete actions that have opened our borders and undermined our laws.

Our laws aren't broken. Immigration isn't broken. The enforcement, the action of the executive branch, to maintain them is the part that is broken.

We did pass H.R. 2 early on in this session to help fortify some of these laws, to help define better what asylum means, since they are defining it in the most loose possible ways.

For the past 3 years, the Biden administration has ignored the crisis. You can't get him or KAMALA HARRIS hardly to go to the border at all. When they do, it is not the part of the border that we could easily document that has been the problem, and he is directly responsible for it.

I have to ask the question as I do occasionally: President Biden, whose side are you on with these actions you take?

He canceled the remain in Mexico program, which was working fairly well. He revoked title 42 for health concerns. He revoked it. He stopped construction of the border wall.

I had a chance to visit that most recently down in the Tucson area, on farther south. Stacks and stacks of the metal that would be used to build that fence were just laying there, dated October 2020 on some of that material.

He even promised a little over a year ago, well, maybe we will start filling in some of the gaps. There has been no action on that.

He has reprimanded border agents, making up bogus claims that the agents riding their horses with their reins were somehow whipping immigrants with that. That was finally dispelled, but not before the lie had spread all around the world from the administration and some of their cronies. They were just trying to do their jobs, and they are being impaired by this White House in doing so.

He allowed for the release of hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants into this country with no way to track them—actually, millions. Biden's Department of Homeland Security has now admitted that 40 percent of catch and release migrants have disappeared.

Last week, it was revealed that he never once spoke to his chief of the Border Patrol about any of this. Border security isn't even a priority for this administration, though they may want to put the dressing on it as we come down to an election here soon.

The Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas, is leading an effort to ban his Department from doing something politically incorrect by saying the words "illegal immigrant." That is what they are focused on, not the actual immigration. That is their concern.

I have to ask again: President Biden, Secretary Mayorkas, whose side are you on? Is it the American people, or is it some other agenda? We can't tell.

Tons of fentanyl are being smuggled into our country, killing our youth. The price of fentanyl is coming down. It is so cheap now because there is such a massive supply—you know, supply and demand. It is getting cheap because it is so frequently available coming across our border illegally.

Deadly chemicals and people are being trafficked to work on the illegal marijuana grows, like we have so many of in northern California, just taking over the land.

Criminal aliens repeatedly broke the law, like the Venezuelan national who recently killed Laken Riley in broad daylight.

House Republicans know that border security is, indeed, national security for our whole country. Every State, as we have said time and again, is now feeling like a border State.

We did pass the strongest border security bill in history in H.R. 2. Now, about a hundred yards that direction, Senator SCHUMER and the gang over there have refused to bring it up for a vote. Instead, they proposed a watered-down immigration bill that would allow—get this—1.8 illegal immigrants a year in our country. It codifies that.

Go ahead, 1.8 million, come on in. Once we reach that threshold, then we will start enforcing something.

How can you take a law or a bill idea like that even seriously?

They would be rewarded with immediate work permits and an ability to stay longer once they are identified. I mean, calling that a border security package is an unfunny joke.

President Biden's open border policies are putting Americans in true danger. This border crisis is responsible for the deaths of countless Americans and the destruction of countless American families.

I just saw a video back from 1995 when President Clinton stood right up there and gave a State of the Union Address and outlined the problem that illegal immigration is in displacing jobs and providing more danger for the American public. That was in 1995 when President Clinton, a Democrat, said that.

What has changed politically in that timeframe that now the Democrats are all for what is happening on our border or, at the very least, doing nothing about it?

They had a period of time when they controlled both Houses and the White House with President Biden just a little over a year ago. They had a 2-year window to do something about that. They had all the ability to line up the votes and the signatures they needed to do that. They did nothing.

Instead, they are saying it is Republicans that are blocking it. We have been for solid border policy since day one.

President Trump led the charge for 4 years on that, and they pushed back.

They thwarted him. They thwarted funding for the border.

They want to send billions and billions overseas for other things when a fraction of that would secure our own southern border. Come on.

One more time: The President will be here tomorrow night, and that side of the room is going to be applauding everything. Our side? Some good, maybe some bad. It will be a mixed bag on this side of the room.

I have to ask the President: As you address us, remember, ask yourself, whose side are you on?

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, and I think he summed up every State of the Union that has ever existed quite well.

There will be areas and opportunities of unity and things that we can be focused on together. I am hopeful that we can use this as a case to talk about the real issues that we are having and the fundamental problems but also solutions.

We know them. We can talk energy policy. We can talk immigration policy. We can talk economic policy. I can do that all day long.

I will wrap up here as to not belabor it but to just point out: Rise above it, President Biden. Rise above it. Look back to the previous administration's policies with things regarding the remain in Mexico policy, the Migrant Protection Protocols.

It is a simple concept. You cannot just say Mexico won't do it. President Trump and Vice President Pence forced the issue with our Mexican neighbors, and they got them to agree this was good for both countries. Whatever limits cartel activity is good for both nations.

Don't hide behind the fact that there is a partnership with Mexico, and you can't do it because of that. It is simple data that shows we can be effective, create these relationships, and improve our situation at the border dramatically with just that one change.

That is just one of many different types of executive actions that you can take. We have already passed it. You can't say we are not willing to legislate on this issue because we have already passed it. The Senate refuses to take it up. The House passed it. The Senate refuses to take it up.

Take some action, President Biden. Talk to your Senators and to Senate Leader SCHUMER and convince them that there are opportunities there. There are things we can do to reverse some of your bad policies.

Don't just look at the previous administration and say, all right, I have to do everything different from them, and then all of a sudden, it leads to these catastrophic events.

Take a look at data, see what works, and implement it. It is as simple as that. It is what the American people recognize, and we have to be willing to follow it.

I highlighted a lot of things about economic policy, from inflation to ev-

erything. Those are things that affect every single American. If we just focused on energy policy, economic policy, and immigration policy, we could really make an improvement for Americans across this great Nation and set ourselves up for success.

I hope I will be able to hear some of that. I am not hopeful that we will hear productive solutions. There might be plenty of rhetoric spewed, but we have to be able to find a way to get those three things that matter most and that affect my constituents and those from every single district across the Nation the most.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 902

Mr. RASKIN (during the Special Order of Mr. MOORE of Utah). Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H. Res. 902.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

FAILED POLICIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Utah for his time down here on the floor pointing out some of the things that we most assuredly will not hear from the President of the United States and those that we wish we would hear from him.

I can tell you one thing we are not going to hear from the President of the United States tomorrow night in this Chamber is any specific actions that he would take or should have taken or apologies for his policies that led to the unfortunate passing 2 weeks ago of Laken Riley.

We know we will not hear that because our Democrat colleagues refuse to take ownership of the policies that the President of the United States has adopted and that Secretary Mayorkas has implemented on his behalf in direct violation of their oaths to the Constitution and under the laws of the United States. As a result, there are Americans who have died.

We know that the President of the United States is not going to take ownership over the high inflation that is decimating families, the regulatory state they put in place that has made the automobiles that the American people need to drive too expensive, allowing EVs to pile up on the lots of dealers while we put mandates in place, the extent to which we have now been banning liquefied natural gas exports by shutting down the ability to get them out of terminals, which is making us more beholden to the special interests and the corporate cronyism

that was all funded by subsidies under the Inflation Reduction Act, all policies led by the radical progressive Democrats that have complete control of the Democratic Party and that are the puppet masters, pulling the strings to which the President of the United States dances.

Tomorrow, he won't talk about those things. He will give a lot of excuses, hiding behind Senate bills and things that allegedly the House of Representatives are not doing.

I think it is a really important day. I need to say something as a Texan. Today is Alamo Day, the day that marks the end of the 13 days of assiegement and fighting and the final sacrifice of almost 200 brave men in the name of freedom at the Alamo.

I am proud to represent San Antonio. The Alamo means a lot to those of us in central Texas, particularly in and around San Antonio.

I think it is really important to note what that meant. I asked a year ago today when I spoke on this issue, or on this commemoration, I should say: What did they declare independence for? What did Travis and the men at the Alamo sacrifice for? A Federal Government that opens our borders to cartels? A group of Republicans who campaign on securing the border yet run away in abject surrender, refusing to actually do it?

That is the question before us right now. That is the question I asked a year ago.

□ 1900

I might remind everybody of the letter from William Barret Travis, commander at the Alamo, February 24, 1836: "Fellow citizens and compatriots, I am besieged by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual bombardment and cannonade for 24 hours and have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise, the garrison are to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken. I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls. I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of liberty, of patriotism, and everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all dispatch. The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily and will no doubt increase to 3 or 4,000 in 4 or 5 days. If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his own honor and that of his country. Victory or death. William Barret Travis, Lieutenant Colonel Commandant."

Now, that was nearly 200 men standing on the wall at the Alamo knowing almost certain death—knowing almost certain death is what they faced. It is notable that on this date, today, 188 years ago William Barret Travis who wrote that letter died.

Davey Crockett, who was fairly well known in the history of our country,

who served in this Chamber—although not in this building but back behind us in the original House Chamber—Davey Crockett, a Member of Congress from the State of Tennessee, who like a number of Tennesseans came to the aid of Texas at the Alamo, Davey Crockett died that day, today, 188 years ago.

We Americans love to have our parades. We love to commemorate these kinds of events. Ask a Texan about the Alamo, and they will fill their chest and stick it out, and they will talk about how great Texas is.

Ask an American about D-Day or about our history and what George Washington did crossing the Delaware or talking about any of the great battles that our men and women in uniform have carried out on behalf of this great country, and they will well up with pride, they will stick their chest out, and they will talk about how great this country is.

But the question that I think needs to be asked sitting here on the floor of the House of Representatives in, yet again, another empty Chamber: What are we willing to do? What are we willing to do? What are the people of this body willing to do? What are my colleagues on both sides of the aisle willing to do in the face of the massive assault on our country that we are experiencing as we speak? What are we actually willing to do?

I have heard lots of speeches, even tonight, speeches about how much our debt is piling up around us and how we need to cut spending. Every single Member of this body, but particularly my Republican colleagues, talk about the debt. \$34.4 trillion. Well, tomorrow it is going to be \$34.5 trillion. We are racking up a trillion dollars of debt every 100 days, and yet, we give lip service to it.

So again, I go back to this point about these men standing on the wall at the Alamo facing certain death if these reinforcements didn't get there. They probably knew full well they weren't going to get them. Yet, they were willing to stand there and die.

For what? To be enslaved to \$34.4 trillion of debt? To be told that you can't get the automobile of your choice? To be told that there is going to be a kill switch that will cut your car off if your eyes dart a certain way? To be told that you must accept untold numbers of illegal aliens coming into your country getting free services, free education, free healthcare while bankrupting your country?

Is that what those men died for?

Did those men die for criminals to be let out on the streets? Did they die so that one of these men's great-granddaughters could get murdered as a student in Georgia, or for example, in Texas a young woman that was found dead in a bathtub? A young cheerleader's mom wanted to go see her, expected to go see her at a cheerleading event, comes home, and she is dead in the bathtub.

Is that what these men sacrificed for? Is that what they put it all on the line for?

When we all talk about the men that sat in the foxholes of Bastogne freezing at Christmas so we could live in this country, did they fight for those things?

I have to be really blunt here. Did they fight so that Republicans could campaign on cutting spending and today on the floor of this Chamber vote to pass a bill that without question, undebatably, unquestionably increases spending significantly in the form of tens of billions of dollars over that of NANCY PELOSI's omnibus spending bill, despite the fact that we had bipartisan spending caps put in place last year, passed in this Chamber with majorities of both Republicans and Democrats and the Senate and signed by the President of the United States?

We ignored those caps, we spent more than those caps, and then we had the audacity to try to claim to the American people publicly that we cut spending. This is what the American people are sick of.

Let me be perfectly clear standing here. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle are, in fact, radical, progressive Democrats, period. They are pushing policies, along with the President of the United States, that is flooding this country with people from all over the world into Texas, into Arizona, into California, stacking our schools, stacking our jails, overwhelming our system, giving out benefits, paying money, all so that people like Marc Elias can challenge in court to stop Arizona from having a law that says only citizens can vote.

Now why might that be?

It is purposeful. It is happening every second, even as we pile up debt around our ears to the tune of \$34.4 trillion and counting—a trillion dollars of interest in 2026; more interest than our defense this year.

It is astounding.

And my colleagues on this side of the aisle and that side of the aisle will hide behind either—from my radical, progressive, Democratic colleagues, they will hide behind taxes. They will say, oh, we have had too many tax cuts. Even though 2 years ago we had more revenue in the Treasury than we ever had.

My colleagues on this side of the aisle will hide behind mandatory spending. They will scratch their beards, look at you and say, oh, but, CHIP, you're getting hung up on 17 percent of the budget. Can't you do math? Really.

Like they look at you like somehow you are insane because you are focused on the discretionary budgets sitting in front of you that you think maybe, just maybe, we should take the discretionary budget that we have total control of every year and demonstrate an ounce—an ounce of actual responsibility and fiscal sanity by saying maybe, just maybe, we shouldn't give

\$12.5 billion to the United Nations. I am just throwing that out there—\$12.5 billion to the United Nations to undermine our country, to work with NGOs to move people into the United States purposely. That is what the United Nations is doing. They worked with Hamas to attack Israel. We funded it. We did that. And they want to say, oh, well, who cares about that?

Well, what about the \$12.7 billion in earmarks that we passed today on the floor of the House filled with all sorts of pet projects so our colleagues can go back home and say: Look what I brought home to you.

Why do I pick those two numbers? Why do I pick those two things, \$12.5 billion in the United Nations and \$12.7 billion in earmarks passed here?

They are massive numbers for both Democrats and Republicans. You know how much Texas has had to spend over the last 3 years to secure the border of the United States in Texas, which is the job of the Federal Government? \$12.5 billion.

Do you know how much Texas has been paid back? Not a red cent.

All I can tell you is those boys that stood at that wall at the Alamo didn't do it for that. March 2, is Texas' Independence Day. I have got to tell you, read about the history of our independence. In 1836, Texas became a sovereign nation for a brief 9 years before we joined the Union. It has got a nice ring to it. But Texas joined that Union, and that Union and that Constitution says this country is supposed to protect its border, and it is leaving Texas exposed.

So with all due respect to Republican leadership and with all due respect to my colleagues on this side of the aisle, when I hear these excuses about we only have a two-vote majority, and sometimes you guys are taking down rules, that is swamp speak for I don't want to make the tough choice and say that we are going to go stand up on that wall like those boys did.

That is what it means.

It means Republican leadership is more concerned about defense spending for the defense establishment in this town. It means that Republican leadership is more concerned about ensuring that warrantless surveillance of Americans under FISA can continue without changing it.

It means that Republican leadership is more concerned about ensuring that we have money for Ukraine's borders rather than our borders.

That is the kind of thing we are talking about.

We are heading into the state of the Union tomorrow with the President of the United States who is in charge of a party of progressive, radical Democrats who want to remake our country, leave our borders open, spend us into oblivion, conduct endless wars, remake us with radical woke policies, DEI, and all the things that are destroying our country and dividing us up by race.

I want a Republican Party that is shoving it right back down and saying,

you know what, we are going to pass a bill that funds this government at the caps we passed last year. We are going to send it over to the Senate. We are going to send it over with H.R. 2. It will secure the border of the United States. We are going to go around this country, and we are going to sell it to every single American. Like those boys on the wall of the Alamo, we are fighting for them. Like those boys sitting in the foxholes in Bastogne or walking into a wall of bullets in Normandy, we are fighting for them.

Instead, what always happens in this Chamber is that we find Members of Congress fighting for themselves—earmarks, political patronage, and power.

When are we going to lay it all on the line for the people we came here to represent? That is my question.

I didn't wear the uniform. I represent a hell of a lot of people who do and did, and it is an honor to do so. I feel like I owe every last ounce of devotion to this country and this Constitution and to them for laying it all out on the field there.

So when my colleagues say, why are you so pointed or so emotional about a particular topic or why are you down here animated? It is because of all of those people that sacrificed. It is those 400,000 tombstones on the other side of the Potomac River, many of whom gave the last full measure of devotion so that we could live free.

I have to tell you, we have an obligation to fight for this country, and I will call out President Biden and my radical Democratic colleagues for all they are doing to destroy this country, and I will work to do my best to make sure we have a Republican majority because my Republican colleagues want to preserve and fight for this country. I know it.

We are not going to do it by doing what we did today. We are not going to do it by continuing to spend money we don't have, bankrupting our kids, not securing our border, not getting the policies in place that we said we would fight for and cowering in the corner under accusations of a potential shut down of government.

Can you imagine the boys standing on the walls of the Alamo saying, oh, my gosh, do you know what they are going to do? They are going to tweet something mean about you and say, oh, my gosh, you are going to shut down the government.

Those guys were saying they are going to respond with a cannon shot with an Army of a thousand coming at them in San Antonio.

All those boys who were jumping out into stormy waters in Normandy going up cliffs, climbing and scaling the cliffs so your prize at that point is to try to march to Berlin.

Again, I did not wear the uniform. I have many colleagues who did. One of my colleagues, one of the men for whom I have such enormous respect for his service to this country and his service as a Member of Congress but, in

particular, wearing the uniform of our United States military is my friend from Pennsylvania, Mr. SCOTT PERRY.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Texas for yielding.

I had the honor of visiting the Alamo just about a month ago when I went to the border. Again, I went to the border and I wondered about William Barret Travis. And I have got to tell you, when you are standing there and you are reading that, and you know that you are standing on the ground where giants stood, where things in the world meant something and were worth fighting for, it is invigorating, and it is inspiring to you to do your part.

I wonder, would William Barret Travis and the folks that lost their lives, the guys that lost their lives defending America at the Alamo and Davey Crockett, would they do it for \$20 million for a State route in Alabama? How about \$4.1 million for a bike path in San Diego or \$6.4 million for a greenway trail in Chattanooga or \$1 million for an electric vehicle car share for public housing residents or \$5 million for a Newport, Rhode Island, walking path?

□ 1915

I am sure that all of those are very important things to the people that live in those communities. I believe that. The question is: Why is the Federal Government paying for them when the Federal Government doesn't have any money?

From December to January, we went over \$34 trillion in debt and by May we will be at \$35 trillion. Did the folks at the Alamo, including William Barret Travis, risk his life and ultimately give his life to watch his country be swallowed up in debt?

To that end, the invasion coming from south of the border, we didn't stop in this bill that was just passed, using taxpayer dollars to represent illegal aliens, to get their attorneys for them. They have come illegally, and the people that gave their lives at the Alamo, I guess we would ask them: Hey, you don't mind paying with your life so that we can represent the people who are attacking you right now? You wouldn't mind that, would you?

I bet they would mind. I have got to tell you, my good friend from Texas talked about the folks at Bastogne. I served in the 28th Infantry Division who held Bastogne under-equipped, undermanned, surrounded by the Germans, taking the losses, taking the unbelievable losses, being told to hold the line, stay here, and hold the Germans off until Patton gets here. Everybody remembers Patton came and saved the Bulge and all that stuff. Nobody cares about all of those guys in the 28th Division who lost their lives fighting for the idea of the greatest country on the planet, the greatest country on the planet where we just agreed to fund firearm registries so that we can take

rights away from Americans, where we agreed to fund vaccine mandates at the Veterans Administration.

I don't think they fought for that. I don't think they fought so that we could have another report about China buying up farmland and sensitive land around military installations. We didn't stop them from doing it, but we are sure going to have a report, so that is awesome.

How about this: They fought and lost their lives so that we can continue to fund the Wuhan Institute of Virology, and we also continue to fund sanctuary cities.

It is breathtaking to me what is happening in this Chamber. The individuals that founded this Nation, that pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, they meant it. They knew how serious it was. They pledged their lives, Mr. Speaker, and we can't even honor their sacrifice by saying we are going to hold the line here and do what we said we were going to do last May.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, that is right, like literally a year ago.

I might just add on this chart, the gentleman refers to House Republicans last year, when we were trying to restore regular order and conservatives were working hard to do that and conservatives voted for a debt ceiling increase, even though we said we wouldn't and we shouldn't, we did. We voted for appropriations bills. Even though the caps were not honored, we did.

We have got colleagues saying we wouldn't work with them when we did everything we knew how to do, and by the way, by passing seven appropriations bills. Moving seven over to the Senate and ten down to the floor, we were able to enact policies to fight the radical Biden regime.

We defunded sanctuary cities refusing to report criminal illegals. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from giving lawyers to illegals, like you just mentioned. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from fast tracking asylum. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We defunded Biden's electric vehicle mandate, anti-power plant rules, and climate executive orders that are killing our economy. We did that. This bill doesn't.

We defunded ATF's pistol brace ban to save and protect Second Amendment rights. This bill doesn't.

We broadly defunded critical race theory and DEI executive orders. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the FBI from using old construction funds for a new headquarters here. This bill doesn't.

We prohibited the Department of Justice from censoring unlawful

speech, requiring the Department of Justice to create a better process for politically sensitive investigations, defunded the DOJ staff refusing to comply with subpoenas, and more.

We defunded the COVID vaccine mandates. We ended Biden's WOTUS rule. We prohibited pride flags from frying over Federal buildings. We prohibited funds for the Wuhan lab. We did all of those things. This bill does none of those and busted the caps.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY), for the purposes of a colloquy.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, we will have colleagues starting today—starting just moments ago, on both sides of the aisle, that will tell you we can't afford this government; it is spending too much. Our citizens can't afford their groceries. They can't afford housing. They can't afford their credit card bills. How did it happen?

It happened in here a couple hours ago.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, it happened right here when all but 83 Republicans voted for it. I think 132 Republicans voted for it. On the Democratic side of the aisle, I think it was 207 to 2 voted to continue to spend at higher levels, racking up more debt and more interest on our children and grandchildren.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, did Davy Crockett and William Barret Travis—not that they had them back then—but if they had, did they lose their lives so that a Federal Government could tell them you must buy this car; you cannot buy this gas stove; you will power your home this way or maybe you won't power it at all because we are going to shut off the generation that America invented? Is that what they died for?

These people and the battered bastards of Bastogne died because they wanted us to be free. They wanted the privilege and the honor to run their own lives, to make decisions for themselves. They didn't want a government that decided everything for them. They wanted a government that laid out the framework where each one of them could determine their destiny.

Now, we just voted for the government to determine the destiny right here and in so many other places. It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, and the duty of every Representative who takes the oath, to fight to ensure that the rights to determine your destiny reside with the individual and not an overbearing, out-of-control Federal Government. Today, we failed at that mission.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, those gentlemen at the Alamo, who gave their last full measure of devotion, did it for an idea. Remember what they were doing, right? They were seeking separation from the federal government of Mexico and ultimately did so. A few weeks later, at the battle of San Jacinto,

Texas wins, Texas becomes free, becomes its own nation. They are living freely. They were throwing off the shackles of a burdensome federal government which was, by the way, far less burdensome than this one.

Then they joined a union, the United States of America, under the idea that America would be amenable to Texas joining the Union to be free, to live free in a republican form of government, in a federalist system, where the people of Texas could live free under a limited government of enumerated powers that wasn't indebting its children and grandchildren into oblivion.

That is what we just did. In addition to all of those policies that we punted to the ground, Republicans in this body just voted to support a shattering \$1.66 trillion bill, forsaking every other option we spent a year exploring.

We punted here. We had caps in place that would have spent right there, but we punted. Republicans punted in favor of that because it was the easy path in an election year, and that is what our children inherit.

That is not why they joined the Union. That is not why Texas fought at the Alamo to be free from Mexico and join the Union. They fought so that we could live free.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, free from the bondage of economic slavery. Slavery is in many forms, but when you can't make the choices that you should be able to make as a free person because you can't afford to make the choices because your government is taking from you that which you have earned, that is tyranny, Mr. Speaker. That is tyranny.

With all due respect to many colleagues on both sides of the aisle, we have one set of Members that are seeking the fundamental transformation of America, which used to look like a free country, and we have another side that is doing nothing to stop it.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my friend for joining me. We came here tonight to celebrate what those men sacrificed for the State of Texas but for our country and the men like them and the women like them over our history. I hope we will do better. We owe it to the American people to do better.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND IRELAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 8 AND DEC. 12, 2023

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows list members like Hon. Kelly Armstrong, Hon. Frank Pallone, etc., with their travel dates and expenses.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
3 Military air transportation.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Feb. 17, 2024.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3303. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act in an account of the Commodity Credit Corporation, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); Public Law 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982 (as amended by Public Law 108-447, div. G, title I, Sec. 1401(b)); (118 Stat. 3192); to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-3304. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter determining and certifying that realistic full-up system level survivability test of the Armed Overwatch OA-1K aircraft would be unreasonably expensive and impractical, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4172(c)(1); Public Law 99-500, Sec. 101(c) (as amended by Public Law 99-591, Sec. 910(a)); (100 Stat. 3341-144); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3305. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's joint final rule — Community Reinvestment Act Regulations Asset-Size Thresholds [Regulation BB; Docket No.: R-1826] (RIN: 7100-AG 73) received February 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3306. A letter from the Program Analyst, Consumer and Government Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Targeting and Eliminating Unlawful Text

Messages [CG Docket No.: 21-402]; Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 [CG Docket No.: 02-278]; Advanced Methods to Target and Eliminate Unlawful Robocalls [CG Docket No. 17-59] received February 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-3307. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the widespread humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and the potential for a deepening economic collapse in Afghanistan that was declared in Executive Order 14064 of February 11, 2022, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3308. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma that was declared in Executive Order 14014 of February 10, 2021, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3309. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Ukraine that was declared in Executive Order 13660 of March 6, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3310. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's International Narcotics Control Strategy Report; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3311. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting two (2) notifications of an action on nomination and a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3312. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting two (2) notifications of an action on nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3313. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting two (2) notifications of a vacancy and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3314. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Fiscal Year 2023 Financial Report of the United States Government, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3315. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's

summary presentation of final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2024-02; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No.: 7] received February 14, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3316. A letter from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's FY 2023 Commercial Activities Inventory, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 501 note; Public Law 105-270, Sec. 2(c)(1)(A); (112 Stat. 2382); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3317. A letter from the Secretary and Treasury, Resolution Funding Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2023 management reports, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)); (104 Stat. 2854) and 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-3318. A letter from the Regulatory Specialist, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules of Practice and Procedure [Docket ID OCC-2021-0007] (RIN: 1557-AE33) received February 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3319. A letter from the Chief Judge, United States Court of International Trade, transmitting an opinion of the U.S. Court of International Trade, CIT Court No. 21-cv-00129, Ad Hoc Shrimp Trade Enf't Comm. v. United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3320. A letter from the Acting Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Tribal Cybersecurity Needs Report, pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 665g(q)(5); Public Law 107-296, Sec. 2218 (as added by Public Law 117-58, Sec. 70612); (135 Stat. 1285); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

EC-3321. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's National Security Education Program (NSEP) 2023 Annual Report; jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Intelligence (Permanent Select).

EC-3322. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Center for Medicare, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's program instruction — Medicare Prescription Payment Plan: Final Part One Guidance on Select Topics, Implementation of Section 1860D-2 of the Social Security Act of 2025, and Response to Relevant Comments received February 28, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6317. A bill to require the Administrator of the General Services Administration to submit a report describing a process for seeking public comment about proposed changes to manda-

tory design standards for public buildings, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-409). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6260. A bill to provide for certain reviews of the use and safety of Federal buildings, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-410). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6261. A bill to direct the Comptroller General to conduct a review on the impact of crime on public building usage, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-411, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6254. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review on the Public Buildings Service, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-412). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, Committees on Oversight and Accountability and the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6261 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida):

H.R. 7559. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to grant family of members of the uniformed services temporary annual leave during the deployment of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. CHU (for herself and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 7560. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Community Advantage Loan Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 7561. A bill to reduce the pay of Members of Congress when a mass shooting occurs in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 7562. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit Federal reserve banks from paying interest on excess reserves; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 7563. A bill to strengthen compliance with the FDA Food Traceability Rule, to enhance the FDA foodborne illness outbreak investigation process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 7564. A bill to amend the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored

Terrorism Act with respect to certain victims; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 7565. A bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LUTTRELL (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. EZELL, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York):

H.R. 7566. A bill to publicize U.S. Customs and Border Protection operational statistics and report on foreign terrorist organizations; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 7567. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the production or distribution of digital forgeries of intimate visual depictions of identifiable individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 7568. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to establish a deadline for applying for disaster unemployment assistance; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ (for herself, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Ms. MACE, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. LIU):

H.R. 7569. A bill to improve rights to relief for individuals affected by non-consensual activities involving intimate digital forgeries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 7570. A bill to rescind unobligated funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. SALAZAR (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 7571. A bill to establish a regional trade, investment, and people-to-people partnership of countries in the Western Hemisphere to stimulate growth and integration through viable long-term private sector development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Rules, Energy and Commerce, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SALINAS:

H.R. 7572. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide employment and training data grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 7573. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to repeal the requirement that States establish a Medicaid Estate Recovery Program and to limit the circumstances in which a State may place a lien on a Medicaid beneficiary's property; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. MOOLENAAR):

H.R. 7574. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to base the numerical limitations for H-2B nonimmigrants on economic need, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. CHU, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. MCGARVEY):

H.R. 7575. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide loan deferment and loan cancellation for certain founders and employees of small business start-ups, to amend the Small Business Act to establish a young entrepreneurs business center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILEY (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Ms. STEFANK, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. ISSA, Mr. CLOUD, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. PERRY, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. HILL, Mr. OGLES, Ms. LETFLO, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. MANN, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. PALMER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. FLOOD, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. CLINE, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. SELF, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. ROSENDALE):

H.J. Res. 116. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Labor relating to "Employee or Independent Contractor Classification Under the Fair Labor Standards Act"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. CLINE):

H.J. Res. 117. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WOMACK:

H. Con. Res. 94. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 4366; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H. Res. 1060. A resolution expressing support for starting and growing families through in vitro fertilization; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. GRANGER:

H. Res. 1061. A resolution providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 4366, with an amendment; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H. Res. 1062. A resolution declaring racism a public health crisis; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GALLEGGO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. WILD, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. GUTHRIE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. BERA, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. AMO, Mr. STANTON, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. CASE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H. Res. 1063. A resolution reaffirming the United States full and unwavering commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in its 75th anniversary year and its goals of achieving collective security through transatlantic partnerships; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas (for himself, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. FALLON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SELF, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H. Res. 1064. A resolution recognizing the role and responsibilities of Texas operating the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and condemning any action to federalize the Texas electricity markets; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 7559. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8; Clause 1 of the Constitution states The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is: To grant family of members of the uniformed services temporary annual leave during the deployment of such members, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 7560. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: This bill amends the Small Business Act to codify the Community Advantage Loan Program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 7561. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 6
The single subject of this legislation is: Compensation Timing for Members of the House of Representatives

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 7562. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: To amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit Federal reserve banks from paying interest on excess reserves.

By Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida:

H.R. 7563. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress is granted the authority to introduce and enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: To strengthen compliance with the FDA Food Traceability Rule, to enhance the FDA foodborne illness outbreak investigation process, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 7564. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution, [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is: this bill amends Section 404(d)(4)(D)(i) of the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act (34 U.S.C. 20144(d)(4)(D)(i)) and the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act with respect to certain victims.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 7565. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 5
The single subject of this legislation is: Awards

By Mr. LUTTRELL:

H.R. 7566. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8. To make laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is: Homeland Security.

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 7567. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is: To prohibit the distribution or production of digital forgeries of intimate visual depictions of identifiable individuals

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 7568. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is: Simplify deadlines for FEMA disaster assistance programs.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H.R. 7569.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To improve rights to relief for individuals affected by non-consensual activities involving intimate digital forgeries, and for other purposes.

By Mr. OGLES:
H.R. 7570.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To rescind unobligated funds.

By Ms. SALAZAR:
H.R. 7571.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Latin American Trade

By Ms. SALINAS:
H.R. 7572.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
The single subject of this legislation is:
Nutrition

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 7573.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
To prohibit state Medicaid programs from using estate recovery to recoup the costs of benefits. States must withdraw property liens within 90 days of the bill's enactment.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 7574.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill would strengthen the H-2B guest worker visa program by updating the H-2B visa cap so that it is tied to the number of labor certifications that the Department of Labor approved in the previous fiscal year and exempt seasonal and rural locations from the annual H-2B visa cap.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 7575.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the forgoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:
This legislation student debt relief for entrepreneurs and startup employees.
By Mr. KILEY:
H.J. Res. 116.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Labor relating to "Employee or Independent Contractor Classification Under the Fair Labor Standards Act"

By Mr. ALLEN:
H.J. Res. 117.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3
The single subject of this legislation is:
Dissaproved of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter rule 89 FR 16202 in the federal register

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

- H.R. 17: Mr. AMO.
- H.R. 82: Mr. MEUSER.
- H.R. 354: Mr. FLEISCHMANN and Mr. HARRIS.
- H.R. 431: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
- H.R. 491: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
- H.R. 537: Mr. WENSTRUP.
- H.R. 619: Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. WILD, Mr. GRIMALVA, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. BOWMAN.
- H.R. 678: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
- H.R. 694: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
- H.R. 743: Mr. ISSA and Ms. WILD.
- H.R. 807: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. FULCHER.
- H.R. 873: Mr. GIMENEZ.
- H.R. 1015: Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 1072: Ms. BUSH.
- H.R. 1111: Ms. ESCOBAR.
- H.R. 1145: Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 1200: Mr. CURTIS.
- H.R. 1302: Mr. AMO.
- H.R. 1320: Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 1406: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BARR, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. LEE of Florida.
- H.R. 1477: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
- H.R. 1495: Ms. MANNING.
- H.R. 1572: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 1582: Ms. PETERSEN.
- H.R. 1788: Mr. RUIZ.
- H.R. 1839: Mr. GUTHRIE.
- H.R. 2390: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. STANBURY, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. TONKO.
- H.R. 2400: Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 2447: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
- H.R. 2451: Mr. MOORE of Utah.
- H.R. 2474: Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASE, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. CLEAVER.
- H.R. 2532: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 2559: Mr. HORSFORD.
- H.R. 2620: Mr. ALFORD and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
- H.R. 2665: Ms. BROWN, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
- H.R. 2723: Ms. PETERSEN.
- H.R. 2743: Mr. LATURNER, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BAIRD, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
- H.R. 2757: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 2803: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.
- H.R. 2825: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
- H.R. 2828: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
- H.R. 2843: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
- H.R. 2894: Mr. PHILLIPS.
- H.R. 2897: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 2898: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 2899: Mrs. HAYES.
- H.R. 2923: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 2940: Mr. CLINE and Mr. CROW.
- H.R. 2999: Ms. WILD.
- H.R. 3005: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 3012: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
- H.R. 3031: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. NEAL.
- H.R. 3037: Ms. PETERSEN and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
- H.R. 3073: Mr. DESAULNIER.
- H.R. 3159: Ms. ADAMS.
- H.R. 3161: Mr. EDWARDS.
- H.R. 3170: Mr. WESTERMAN and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
- H.R. 3205: Mr. CUELLAR.
- H.R. 3249: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.

- H.R. 3396: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
- H.R. 3413: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. ROSE, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
- H.R. 3418: Mr. FITZGERALD.
- H.R. 3520: Mr. OGLES.
- H.R. 3538: Mr. PHILLIPS.
- H.R. 3539: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
- H.R. 3542: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
- H.R. 3567: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
- H.R. 3576: Mr. LEVIN.
- H.R. 3599: Mrs. SYKES and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
- H.R. 3638: Mr. OGLES, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. POSEY.
- H.R. 3747: Mr. IVEY.
- H.R. 3785: Ms. PORTER.
- H.R. 3851: Ms. SPANBERGER.
- H.R. 3910: Ms. NORTON and Mr. MCGOVERN.
- H.R. 3933: Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. SABLON, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. FINSTAD, and Ms. STANBURY.
- H.R. 3946: Mr. PANETTA.
- H.R. 4175: Mr. EDWARDS.
- H.R. 4189: Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. ROSS.
- H.R. 4263: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. NORTON.
- H.R. 4278: Mr. OGLES.
- H.R. 4293: Mr. WESTERMAN.
- H.R. 4349: Mr. THANEDAR.
- H.R. 4581: Ms. PORTER.
- H.R. 4683: Mr. PHILLIPS.
- H.R. 4704: Mr. PHILLIPS.
- H.R. 4745: Ms. PETERSEN.
- H.R. 4750: Ms. PORTER and Mr. NORCROSS.
- H.R. 4769: Ms. SALINAS, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
- H.R. 4770: Mr. MFUME.
- H.R. 4848: Ms. STEFANK.
- H.R. 4867: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
- H.R. 4878: Ms. KAPTUR.
- H.R. 4897: Mr. LAWLER, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. THANEDAR.
- H.R. 4916: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 4933: Mr. HORSFORD.
- H.R. 4936: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 5057: Mr. VALADAO.
- H.R. 5134: Mr. MANN.
- H.R. 5254: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 5266: Mr. NORCROSS and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
- H.R. 5566: Mr. DELUZZIO.
- H.R. 5580: Mr. TONKO.
- H.R. 5827: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
- H.R. 5829: Ms. PEREZ.
- H.R. 5879: Ms. BOEBERT.
- H.R. 5960: Mr. DELUZZIO.
- H.R. 5995: Ms. MENG.
- H.R. 6023: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mr. POSEY.
- H.R. 6046: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
- H.R. 6049: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. TONKO.
- H.R. 6094: Mr. CARBAJAL.
- H.R. 6097: Mrs. DINGELL.
- H.R. 6147: Ms. LOFGREN.
- H.R. 6179: Mr. THANEDAR.
- H.R. 6293: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
- H.R. 6319: Mr. COLE.
- H.R. 6381: Mr. BOWMAN.
- H.R. 6394: Mr. OWENS.
- H.R. 6415: Ms. WEXTON.
- H.R. 6438: Ms. TOKUDA.
- H.R. 6482: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
- H.R. 6538: Ms. PEREZ.
- H.R. 6573: Mr. HUDSON.
- H.R. 6600: Ms. CRAIG.
- H.R. 6640: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
- H.R. 6658: Mrs. LUNA.
- H.R. 6720: Mr. KILDEE.
- H.R. 6744: Mr. CLINE and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
- H.R. 6749: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
- H.R. 6805: Ms. STANBURY.
- H.R. 6815: Mr. CROW.
- H.R. 6860: Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 6929: Ms. WEXTON, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 6951: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois and Mr. COMER.
 H.R. 6974: Mr. OWENS.
 H.R. 7038: Mr. MCGARVEY.
 H.R. 7056: Ms. PELOSI, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. DINGELL, and Ms. MATSUI.
 H.R. 7082: Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 7101: Mr. FITZGERALD.
 H.R. 7133: Mr. PANETTA and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 7165: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 7171: Mr. NORCROSS and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
 H.R. 7197: Mr. PHILLIPS.
 H.R. 7203: Ms. NORTON and Ms. BROWN.
 H.R. 7204: Ms. SHERRILL and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
 H.R. 7246: Mr. HERN.
 H.R. 7249: Mr. CLINE.
 H.R. 7271: Mr. OGLS.
 H.R. 7288: Ms. CHU and Ms. PORTER.
 H.R. 7314: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
 H.R. 7343: Mr. NORMAN.
 H.R. 7365: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
 H.R. 7372: Mr. LALOTA and Mr. GIMENEZ.
 H.R. 7450: Mrs. HINSON, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. ISSA.
 H.R. 7455: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. GROTHMAN.
 H.R. 7469: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 7478: Mr. OWENS.
 H.R. 7511: Mr. SCALISE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. MACE, Mr. FRY, Mrs. HOUGHIN, Mr. SELF, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BANKS, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. YAKYM, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BABIN, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BOST, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. OGLS, Mr. TIFFANY, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, and Mr. McCLINTOCK.
 H.R. 7513: Ms. BOEBERT.
 H.R. 7515: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 7516: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 7530: Mr. CLYDE.
 H.R. 7531: Mrs. HOUGHIN, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BARR, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 7543: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
 H.R. 7547: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.
 H.R. 7557: Mr. COURTNEY.
 H.J. Res. 96: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
 H.J. Res. 115: Mr. ROSENDALE.
 H. Con. Res. 83: Mrs. SYKES.
 H. Res. 146: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.
 H. Res. 445: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H. Res. 561: Mr. AMO.
 H. Res. 882: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
 H. Res. 901: Mr. DOGGETT and Ms. BONAMICI.
 H. Res. 915: Mr. RYAN.
 H. Res. 990: Ms. PEREZ.
 H. Res. 1025: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. NEGUSE.
 H. Res. 1037: Mr. LAWLER.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:
 H. Res. 902: Mr. RASKIN.