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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, July 25, 2025, at 11 a.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARKWAYNE MULLIN, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know all about us. You know when we sit down and rise up. You know when we trespass and when we obey. Purge our lives of every wrong thing, that we may glorify You in all we think, say, and do.

Lord, guide our lawmakers in their daily work. Enlighten their minds so that they can find solutions to the chaos and confusion in our world.

Teach our Senators to listen for Your voice and to wait for Your guidance. Lift their lives from the cacophony of contention to the concord of a caring community where lawmakers pray forward and support each other.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant executive clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 24, 2025.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARKWAYNE MULLIN, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MULLIN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive clerk read the nomination of Matthew

Lohmeier, of Arizona, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Democratic leader is recognized.

JEFFREY EPSTEIN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today marks the first day of the House embarking on their "Epstein recess," and already the story Republicans hoped would quietly fade is growing louder by the hour. Just yesterday, the Wall Street Journal reported that Attorney General Pam Bondi and the Department of Justice informed President Trump back in May that his name appears multiple times in the Epstein files.

Let me remind my colleagues, only last week Donald Trump told a reporter that Attorney General Bondi never told him his name was in those files. Now we know that this was a lie, plain and simple, a red-faced lie.

And this revelation raises not just serious questions about President Trump but about Attorney General Bondi herself. Bondi has proven to do all of Trump's bidding. No matter what way you slice it, Attorney General Bondi lied to the American people. She told us we would see the report. She told us it is on her desk. Then we are told there is no report.

So you can understand the deep skepticism Americans have when they hear that today, Bondi's personal prosecutors—yes, the very ones under her direction—are preparing to interview Ghislaine Maxwell, Jeffrey Epstein's longtime accomplice, behind closed doors in Florida.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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Let me repeat: Under no circumstances should anyone from Donald Trump's Department of Justice be allowed to privately interview Ghislaine Maxwell. The conflict of interest just stares you in the face, and it is unacceptable.

If you have been following this saga, and given how the White House and Speaker JOHNSON have so mishandled it—and who hasn't been following it—you know exactly why this moment is so dangerous. There is every reason to fear that Donald Trump could offer Ghislaine Maxwell a pardon in exchange for silence or, even worse, phony exoneration.

Let me be clear, Trump is sending his personal lawyer, Todd Blanche, to try to execute a corrupt coverup, potentially offering leniency to a woman who also abused the victims.

Enough. Enough. Enough with the hiding; enough with the excuses; and enough with the coverup. The American people deserve transparency. They deserve answers.

And there are massive questions here, not just for the President but for the Vice President, the Attorney General, the FBI Director, and Republican leaders in Congress. What is in the files? When did they learn about it? And how long have they been misleading the American people?

So, today, on the heels of Speaker JOHNSON fleeing town to avoid accountability and following this damning report from the Wall Street Journal, I am calling on the administration to provide a closed-door briefing to all Senators on the Epstein files. The Senate deserves to hear directly from senior administration officials about Donald Trump's name appearing in these files and the complete lack of transparency shown to date.

Let me say it again. Donald Trump can't play ignorant anymore. He was caught red-handed in a lie, as were his lackeys. He reportedly knew for months that his name was in the Epstein files. He lied about it to the press, and now the truth is coming out.

Over the past few weeks, Trump has tried to change the subject—throwing out wild accusations, attacking his critics, and calling the files a hoax run by Democrats. He has blamed “foolish” and “stupid” Republicans for taking it seriously. He even scolded the American people for caring too much.

Well, we now all know why he was so desperate to make it all disappear—because whenever Donald Trump points a finger, it is because he knows he is guilty of what he is accusing everyone else of. That is his MO. When he does something, when he knows he has done something wrong, instead of admitting it, instead of trying to make amends, he points the finger at someone else and accuses them of the very thing he has done. That is how he has lived his whole life. That is how he has conducted his Presidency. As I said, it is his MO.

Let us not forget, Donald Trump campaigned, just several months back,

on releasing the Epstein files. Donald Trump is the only President or politician to ever campaign on releasing the Epstein files. And now, very simply, Americans are demanding he honor it.

A good number of people voted for Trump because he promised to be their voice against the so-called deep state. But now they have seen he is very much a part of that deep state. He is right in the middle of it.

People believed he would drain the swamp; now he is right in the middle of the swamp. And that is why Americans across the political spectrum—right, center, left, Democrats, Republican, Independents—Americans across the political spectrum are angry with Donald Trump because they now are seeing his promise to drain the swamp was total fiction. He is in the middle of it. He is adding to it.

Trump promised transparency. He told his supporters he would expose the truth. He has done the opposite. He has smothered it more than ever before.

And meanwhile, House Republicans had the chance to show courage, to do the right thing and act, but, instead, Speaker JOHNSON ran for the exits, sending everyone home early and triggering what we now call the “Epstein recess.”

But I would say to Speaker JOHNSON, I would say to Donald Trump and his minions, I would say to all of my Republican colleagues in the Senate: This issue isn't going away. It is only getting bigger and more dangerous the longer Republicans ignore it.

Instead of focusing on appropriations or national priorities like transparency for Americans or funding the government, Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans will be left cleaning up this mess, a mess of their own making.

Republicans cannot escape the issue—not next week, not next month, not until the American people get answers and the transparency they were promised.

NOMINATION OF EMIL J. BOVE III

Mr. President, now on the Bove cloture vote, later today, Senate Republicans will hold the first procedural vote on one of Donald Trump's nastiest Judicial nominees to date, Emil Bove.

Mr. Bove is beyond unqualified and unworthy of the Federal bench. He is an existential threat to the rule of law and our democracy as we know it.

Mr. Bove is as far from the mainstream as any judicial nominee we have considered in this Chamber. He is a Trumpian henchman, the extreme of the extreme of the extreme. He is openly hostile to the rule of law. He is fundamentally opposed to democratic norms. He lacks the temperament to serve as a jurist.

Above all—above all—Bove is religiously obedient to Donald Trump. We all know that one of the only things that matter to this President is brazen, unyielding obedience to him no matter how wrong he is, no matter what lies he tells.

Mr. Bove made a name for himself by cleaning up Donald Trump's dirty laun-

dry. That is what he did—he cleaned up Donald Trump's dirty laundry. He is a devout January 6 apologist who defended Trump as his personal attorney after Trump was charged with inciting the insurrection.

At the Justice Department, he wielded his power to fire prosecutors working on January 6 criminal cases and punish FBI agents—people who dedicated their lives to our country and were simply following the law. He goes out and tries to punish them because they stopped Donald Trump's insurrection.

So instead of working to hold the January 6 rioters accountable, Bove sided with the rioters, who desecrated the building and violently attacked our police officers. Imagine Republicans going after people who attacked police officers all because Donald Trump incited an insurrection that he now lies about.

Well, that is who Mr. Bove is, and it is not even the all of it. While at the Justice Department, Mr. Bove reportedly told DOJ lawyers to ignore court orders and even deliberately mislead judges. That is what he said. That is what he reportedly told DOJ lawyers—to ignore court orders and mislead judges.

Can you believe we are trying to put this guy on the bench? How low can our Republican colleagues go in obeisance to Donald Trump when so many of them—not all of them, not all of them, but so many of them know he is wrong?

If there is even a shred of truth to these allegations, that is enough to disqualify Mr. Bove from ever holding Federal office and Federal judgeship above all.

My Republican colleagues don't seem to want to get to the facts. Republicans are so afraid of Donald Trump, so willing to do whatever he says, that many of them are going along with Bove's nomination without a whisper, without so much as a whisper of scrutiny. All the signs are pointing towards Bove being a disastrous judge who will take advantage of his power on the Third Circuit to settle scores and advance the Trump agenda.

Republicans have a decision to make. If they still have any respect left for the Senate as a check on the Executive, if they still have any respect for our judiciary and the rule of law, then Republicans should join Democrats and vote no on Mr. Bove's nomination.

HONORING DETECTIVE JOHN M. GIBSON AND OFFICER JACOB J. CHESTNUT

Mr. President, finally, on a more solemn note, today marks 27 years since Detective John Gibson and Officer Jacob Chestnut of the Capitol Police were killed in the line of duty, defending the Capitol Building from a lone gunman.

In the face of grave danger not only to themselves but to all of us who were in the Capitol that day—I was a Congressman then—Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut responded with extraordinary courage and heroism. Because of their sacrifice, a potentially

catastrophic situation was contained in a matter of minutes, and countless innocent lives were spared.

Today, we honor the memories of Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut, and we thank all of our Capitol Police for doing the work they do day in and day out to keep the Capitol Complex safe and secure.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the appropriations process is well underway here in the Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee, under Chair COLLINS, released four bipartisan appropriations bills.

This week, we are doing something a bit unusual. We are bringing appropriations legislation to the floor. Why do I say that is unusual? Because last year, despite the fact that the Senate Appropriations Committee approved 11 out of the 12 yearly appropriations bills with bipartisan support, the Democratic leader never brought a single one of those bills to the floor—not one.

One of the things that I have been determined to do as leader is to restore us as much as possible to a regular-order appropriations process, to have bills move through the committees and then come to the Senate floor for debate and amendment.

That is what we are doing this week with consideration of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill for fiscal year 2026. This legislation was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee in a robustly bipartisan vote of 26 to 3. I hope it will receive equally robust bipartisan support on the Senate floor.

The MILCON-VA appropriations bill provides critical funding for veterans' healthcare, veterans' benefits, and construction projects at military bases and installations around the globe.

As a resident of a rural State, I am particularly pleased by the bill's funding for telehealth services as well as for the Office of Rural Health at the Department of Veterans Affairs. This funding will help reduce barriers to care for rural veterans, as will the bill's provision preventing the VA from closing hospitals—something I worked to include.

I am also pleased to see that the bill continues to fund modernization of veterans' healthcare records by providing funding to triple the number of VA sites that use electronic health records.

On the military construction front, I am happy to announce that the bill

contains funding for a number of key facilities for the new B-21 bomber—the future of our long-range bomber fleet—which will have its first home at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota. National Guard facilities in South Dakota, like National Guard facilities around the country, will also see funding for essential construction projects thanks to this legislation.

Mr. President, considering the Military Construction-VA bill on the floor is a big step in the right direction appropriations-wise. And our work this week doesn't have to end there. As I said, the Appropriations Committee has reported a total of four appropriations bills so far. All of them have been bipartisan.

I know that the fiscal year 2026 Agriculture appropriations bill is a major priority for all of us—Democrat or Republican—who live in States that depend on agriculture. Whether it is funding for agricultural research programs, resources for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, assistance to ranchers to comply with animal disease traceability requirements, the \$223 million for the Agricultural Marketing Service to expand markets for American agriculture products, or resources for the Farm Service Agency to ensure that farmers have access to necessary capital, this year's Agriculture appropriations bill will be a key resource for farmers and ranchers.

Then there is the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill, which, among other things, provides essential funding for Federal law enforcement officers as well as support for State and local law enforcement.

There is the fiscal year 2026 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, which funds the work we do here in Washington for our constituents and, this year, also adds additional funding to confront growing threats to Member security.

Mr. President, I am very grateful to Chair COLLINS, Vice Chair MURRAY, and all the members of the Senate Appropriations Committee for all their work on these bills. I hope we will be able to consider some of these alongside the MILCON-VA appropriations bill this week and next.

Democrats have indicated they want a bipartisan appropriations process, and we are giving it to them. I hope we will see bipartisan passage of appropriations bills on the Senate floor.

It was disturbing to see the Democratic leader implicitly threatening to shut down the government in his July "Dear Colleague" letter, but I am hopeful he does not represent the views of Senate Democrats as a whole. Members of both parties should have a strong interest in a regular-order, bipartisan appropriations process, and I am pleased that we managed to begin on a bipartisan basis this week. I hope the process will continue in a bipartisan way as we move toward September's deadline.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NOMINATIONS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to mark an important milestone in this new administration. Senate Republicans have now confirmed more than 100 nominees in President Trump's second term.

This is significant progress in filling critical government positions. It took relentless procedural battles to accomplish this. It included full days and long nights. Why? Because Democrats are waging a coordinated campaign of obstruction.

Under the Constitution, the Senate is meant to provide advice and consent. We do it on Presidential nominations. We do it on a number of things. Specifically, with regard to nominations, this means an honest evaluation of qualifications, and it means a vote in the U.S. Senate. Now, for more than 6 months, Senate Democrats have turned advice and consent into automatic opposition. It doesn't just delay President Trump; it damages the country.

Democrats have filibustered all but one of President Trump's nominees, and he was the very first nominee, Marco Rubio to be Secretary of State. He was confirmed on day one of the administration. Since then, it has been a wall of obstruction. Democrats have filibustered positions requiring confirmation that have never before even had a rollcall vote in the U.S. Senate; they have gone by unanimous consent. Democrats filibustered the Chief of Protocol for the State Department—the Chief of Protocol. Democrats filibustered the Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security. They filibustered the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. Today, 138 nominees who have already been approved by a full vote in the Senate committees are caught here—in Senate floor purgatory.

Democrats in the Senate seem to have a new litmus test: If President Trump nominates you, Democrats are against you—period, end of story. Yesterday, the Senate confirmed four nominees: the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, the Under Secretary of Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Crimes, a district judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, and the Assistant Administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency—all qualified, all vetted, all experienced. Each and every one was filibustered. The Democrats forced the Senate to burn every minute of available time before the Senate was permitted to vote.

When Democrats delay nominations and nominees—people specifically

charged to fight drug trafficking, to protect the environment, to track terrorists—it delays justice, and it makes our Nation weaker and less safe. It tells Americans that Democrats care more about politics than they do about problem-solving.

Now Democrats are targeting President Trump's nominee to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. We just heard the Senate minority leader talk about that nominee. By any objective measure, Mr. Bove is qualified—Georgetown law, in the top 5 percent of his class, a decorated former prosecutor, someone who took on and took down violent criminals, drug traffickers, and terrorists—but because he worked for President Trump, he is now a target—a target of a politically motivated hit job.

During his confirmation, he said this under oath:

I have never advised a Department of Justice attorney to violate a court order.

The facts support his testimony.

So, today, Senator SCHUMER came to the floor and said of Mr. Bove that he was “as extreme as anyone we have considered in this Chamber.” Let me recall for the body some of the people who were nominated under the Biden administration and were supported by CHUCK SCHUMER when he makes an attack on such a qualified nominee as we are debating and discussing and voting on today.

The Democrats confirmed as U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts someone who released a list of charges that she would refuse to prosecute if she were confirmed. She said: I refuse to prosecute shoplifting and drug possession with an intent to distribute—which was OK under the Democrats. They wanted her confirmed as a U.S. attorney, and they did that for Massachusetts.

They also confirmed in 2021, under Joe Biden, an Assistant Attorney General who supported efforts to “defund the police”—an Attorney General wanting to defund the police.

Then they supported and nominated and confirmed a judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, a judge who worked for a leftwing organization who—listen to this, Democrats—repeatedly called for a complete reimagining of policing in this country.

That is what they are for. That is who they are. That is the Democrats today.

The kicker of all of this is that the Democrats' radical nominee for the Third Circuit in 2024—this same position opposed by more than 20 police groups—20 police groups—served on the board of advisers of a group that called cop killers freedom fighters. The Democrats came to support a nominee by then-President Joe Biden who was a member of a board of advisers for a group that called cop killers freedom fighters and advocated for their release. Nevertheless, Democrats strongly supported the confirmation. They

relented only after President Trump won the election.

Republicans are working hard to get America back on track.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY

On another matter, Mr. President, this Saturday marks the day of the American cowboy.

This national celebration began 20 years ago. It started by my predecessor, Senator Craig Thomas, and I am proud to continue it with Senator CYNTHIA LUMMIS today. By celebrating the American cowboy, we celebrate the men and women who transformed a vast frontier into vibrant communities. The people who paved the way for the American dream from the saddle of a horse made America great. The people who continue to believe that freedom is a gift—a gift from God, not from the government—is who cowboys are. The American cowboy represents the grit and the values that America is built on.

Now, I am from Wyoming, and in Wyoming, we believe in the cowboy code, and we live it each and every day. It says: Live each day with courage. Take pride in your work. Do what needs to be done.

That is what we do in the West. We need these values more than ever in America and especially in Washington, DC, because cowboys will tell you: It is not about the boots on your feet. It is not about the hat on your head. It is about the values you embrace, the values that cowboys truly represent, which is that character matters more than the credentials; that actions speak louder than words; that the best government is the government that trusts the people to govern themselves.

The American frontier spirit is alive and well today. President Ronald Reagan said of the American West when he was in Cheyenne, WY, that the thing he loved about Wyoming and the West was that people here still believed the future was ours to shape. The people in the West continue to create and shape that future each and every day.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The Senator from Pennsylvania.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. President, I am honored to be here on the Senate floor for the first time. Each time I enter the Senate Chamber, I am humbled to walk in the footsteps of the Pennsylvanians who came before me, from founding father Robert Morris to Simon Cameron, from Joseph Clark to John Heinz.

It was the namesake of the Commonwealth, William Penn, who said:

Patience and diligence, like faith, remove mountains.

In my short time here in the Senate, I have found these words to be of comfort. At this moment, our circumstances and fellow countrymen require us to remove mountains and to do so with great haste.

I would also not be here today without the patience, love, and example of my parents Jim and Maryan. I am also so grateful for the love and encouragement and belief in me by my incredible wife Dina, who is in the Gallery today. She believed in me when few others did. Finally, Dina and I are both so grateful for the love and support of our amazing six daughters through two hard-fought campaigns.

I chose to rise today for the first time because something miraculous happened last week in Pittsburgh, the city that Dina and I are proud to call our home. In the middle of the so-called rust belt, President Trump, members of the Cabinet, the CEOs of the world's leading energy, technology, and investment companies, labor leaders, and political leaders from both parties came together at Carnegie Mellon University to commit over \$90 billion in new investments—investments that affirm Pennsylvania's central role at the crossroads of America's energy and AI revolutions.

These projects announced at the inaugural Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit will bring enormous benefits to communities across our great Commonwealth: new data centers and powerplants in Northeastern Pennsylvania, data centers and hydroelectric power in York and Lancaster Counties, new natural gas power capacity and production in Western Pennsylvania, and plans by Pittsburgh's iconic Westinghouse to begin constructing 10 large nuclear reactors by 2030.

For Pennsylvania workers, this will result in tens of thousands of jobs for skilled labor, including electricians and welders, steamfitters, machinists, and countless other trades, and many, many more indirect jobs supporting these projects will come to Pennsylvania's communities.

Perhaps most important, the significant media focus on the summit allowed Pennsylvania to tell its unique and compelling story to the world.

Last year, President Trump and I promised to make America energy dominant and to secure our Nation's AI leadership and to create jobs and opportunity for working families in Pennsylvania and across America during our campaigns. Last Tuesday, it was clear to all that we were delivering on all those promises.

These investments come at a defining moment not only for Pennsylvania but also for the future of our great Nation. Embracing the AI revolution and achieving energy dominance will require us to do something very special: once again build in the United States. In this process, we can revitalize the American dream for all Pennsylvanians and for all Americans by training and deploying workers across our economy, from the trades, to engineers, to our very finest scientists.

The stakes could not be higher. If the United States does not rise to this challenge, we risk putting our future in the hands of the Chinese Communist

Party, which seeks to dominate industries and technologies that will define the 21st century. This is a competition we must win, and it is a moment that demands leadership, sound policies, and, yes, bipartisanship—bipartisan cooperation to ensure our Nation's prosperity.

That is what this summit in Pittsburgh was all about—bringing the President and his team together with many leaders who can seize this moment, who can chart a course forward to build the infrastructure, the talent, and the technology required to lead America's next chapter of growth and opportunity.

I will come back to the significance of the summit in a few minutes, but let me step back for a moment and describe the journey that has brought me here today.

I am a seventh-generation Pennsylvanian from Washington County. I grew up in a small town called Bloomsburg—the majority leader visited—in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I spent my Friday nights on the wrestling mat in high school gyms from Shikellamy to Shickshinny, from Selinsgrove to Schuylkill Haven. I spent my summers baling hay and trimming Christmas trees with my high school buddies. Many of them are still close friends today.

This upbringing, like for so many generations of Pennsylvanians, taught me the timeless lessons of toughness, hard work, and resilience.

My senior year in high school, I was nominated to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point—the first kid from Bloomsburg to attend the Academy in decades. There, I learned the three words that General MacArthur called the rallying points for every cadet: "duty, honor, country."

Three years after graduating, I saw those words put into action when I deployed with the 82nd Airborne Division to Saudi Arabia and later Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.

Following the Army, I joined and eventually led a successful technology company in Pittsburgh. I served in several senior positions in the government at the intersection of national security and our economy. And I led, as CEO, one of the world's great global investment firms. But nothing—nothing—I have done in my life compares to the honor of serving as the 54th elected Senator from the Keystone State. I am also proud, following the great Senator from Rhode Island, to be the ninth Senator in American history who is a graduate of West Point.

I decided to enter the political arena because America is a superpower in peril. I gave up a successful business career because I could see that despite the strength and the spirit of the American people, our future is threatened by a cycle of stagnation and disillusionment and decline. The American dream is out of reach for far too many families in Pennsylvania. And the Chinese Communist Party is ac-

tively subverting America's economic and military power.

Breaking this cycle and focusing on the renewal of our Nation is the only way forward, and I felt a calling to try to do my part in fulfilling this mission.

During his campaign, President Trump uniquely grasped this challenge. He saw the struggling communities next to the shuttered steel mills along the Monongahela Valley on the outskirts of Pittsburgh, and he understood the devastation in small towns like Bloomsburg, where I grew up, 50 miles from Scranton. The Magee Carpet Mill once employed more than 2,000 workers, including the parents of many of my high school classmates, and is now occupied by a mere 200.

Like the President, our fellow citizens saw thousands of brave men and women who fought for two decades in the endless wars in the Middle East. Too many—too many—returned home with broken bodies or troubled minds, like Michael Wargo of Lehigh, the son of Dina's and my dear friends Michael and Sally. They lost Michael to suicide years after he returned from a tour in Afghanistan. I share their heartbreak—and I know many of you do, too—and disbelief that 18 veterans a day still take their own lives, every single day.

Finally, we all saw the wide-open southern border bringing millions of illegal immigrants into our towns and cities and violent crime and deadly fentanyl into our communities. More than 4,000 Pennsylvanians lose a loved one every year to a fentanyl overdose. One of those families is that of my good friend Blair County Sheriff Jim Ott, who lost his 33-year-old son Josh to the scourge of fentanyl.

Last year, I heard these concerns over and over and over again from my fellow Pennsylvanians in hundreds of campaign stops I made across the Commonwealth. And in November, the people spoke. Pennsylvania voters gave President Trump and me a mandate for change. They wanted a dramatic turnaround from 4 years of open border policies, soaring prices caused by reckless spending, and weak leadership on the world's stage that emboldened China, Russia, and Iran.

After only 6 months, the results speak for themselves. President Trump, with the support of this Congress, has made enormous progress. Illegal border crossings are at a record low, with more resources on the way. The One Big Beautiful Bill just delivered and made permanent the largest tax cut in history for working families. And the U.S. economic indicators across the board are getting better by the day.

We are making America safer. We are rebuilding our military. President Trump ordered a flawless attack on Iran's nuclear enrichment facilities so the mullahs can never wield a nuclear weapon. And we are working together to end the Russia-Ukraine war while preserving Ukraine as a free and independent country.

As a Senator, my job is to deliver for the people of Pennsylvania whether they voted for me or not. We are going to have some tough fights in this Chamber. This year, we already have had many. But when I look back on my time serving the people of Pennsylvania, I want to be able to tell my children and my grandchildren that I worked with anyone, regardless of their party, who shares the goal of delivering results and much needed change for Pennsylvania and our Nation.

That is why I appreciate my collaboration with my colleague and friend Pennsylvania senior Senator JOHN FETTERMAN. Despite our differences, we found a way to work together on critical issues, such as fighting anti-Semitism at home and abroad.

In the months and years ahead, I hope to serve my constituents not only inside this Chamber through legislation, hearings, and votes but also outside this Chamber by using my platform, my voice, and my leadership to bring about meaningful change.

That is why I began today by talking about the Pennsylvania Energy and Innovation Summit. Our vision for the event came from a realization that Pennsylvania sits at the crossroads of America's energy and AI revolutions. Yet the key political, business, and labor leaders had never actually been brought together in one place to make things happen.

I highlight this summit not because it is the answer to all the problems we face but because it exemplifies the key ingredients that I believe we need as a country at this unique moment.

This moment demands bold, innovative leadership across the political spectrum to build coalitions—unique coalitions—required to tackle these challenges.

This moment—this moment—demands a willingness to discard conventional wisdom to improve the lives of our fellow countrymen.

This moment demands embracing partnerships between our Nation's public institutions and the private sector, where much of the innovation that is required is taking place.

This moment—this moment—demands urgency, moving at the speed that is necessary to overcome the obstacles facing working families each and every day that we all hear about when we are home in our States.

I have the privilege, the true privilege, of representing the birthplace of our Nation during its 250th year, but the Keystone State's special place in American history extends far beyond our Nation's birth.

In the summer of 1787, Philadelphia gave our young Nation new life at the Constitutional Convention. As Benjamin Franklin emerged from the convention, he famously said that the United States would be "a Republic, if [we] can keep it."

More than 100 miles to the west at Gettysburg, almost 100 years later, the

Civil War put Franklin's warning to the test. On that hallowed ground, Abraham Lincoln told his audience to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that task, of course, being the preservation of our Union.

Our Nation's history and Pennsylvania's history are full of such significant milestones, and today we face another make-or-break moment for America's future. I have seen our country at its best, as many of you have, from the brave men with whom I served in Iraq to the shopkeepers and the storekeepers along the streets of vibrant, small Pennsylvania towns, to the farmers whose plowed fields dot our Commonwealth's beautiful landscape, beautiful countryside.

I have witnessed firsthand our uniquely American ability to get to the edge of the cliff and to pull ourselves back in times and moments of national peril. We can do it again. A bright future can and should be ours, but it depends on what we do next. We must confront the difficult task ahead, while staying true to the values and ideals that have made America the last best hope of man on Earth.

And what I can say with certainty today, Mr. President, standing in this esteemed Chamber with so many friends, is that this Senator and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can be counted on to do our part.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the previously scheduled rollcall vote begin immediately.

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

VOTE ON LOHMEIER NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Lohmeier nomination?

Mr. COTTON. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 434 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Crapo	Husted
Barrasso	Cruz	Hyde-Smith
Blackburn	Curtis	Johnson
Boozman	Daines	Justice
Budd	Ernst	Kennedy
Capito	Fischer	Lankford
Cassidy	Graham	Lee
Collins	Grassley	Lummis
Cornyn	Hagerty	Marshall
Cotton	Hawley	McConnell
Cramer	Hoeven	McCormick

Moody	Risch	Thune
Moran	Rounds	Tillis
Moreno	Schmitt	Tuberville
Mullin	Scott (FL)	Wicker
Murkowski	Scott (SC)	Young
Paul	Sheehy	
Ricketts	Sullivan	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Fetterman	Ossoff	Welch
Gallego	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt Kim

The nomination was confirmed. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 87, Richard Topping, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

John Thune, Eric Schmitt, John R. Curtis, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Bill Cassidy, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines, Marsha Blackburn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Mike Rounds, Bernie Moreno, Pete Ricketts, Jim Justice, Bill Hagerty.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Richard Topping, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 435 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Blackburn	Budd
Barrasso	Boozman	Capito

Cassidy	Husted	Paul
Collins	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Cornyn	Johnson	Risch
Cotton	Justice	Rounds
Cramer	Kennedy	Schmitt
Crapo	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Lee	Scott (SC)
Curtis	Lummis	Sheehy
Daines	Marshall	Sullivan
Ernst	McCormick	Thune
Fischer	McCormick	Tillis
Graham	Moody	Tuberville
Grassley	Moran	Wicker
Hagerty	Moreno	Young
Hawley	Mullin	
Hoeven	Murkowski	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Baldwin	Hirono	Schatz
Bennet	Kaine	Schiff
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schumer
Blunt Rochester	King	Shaheen
Booker	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Cantwell	Lujan	Smith
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Fetterman	Ossoff	Welch
Gallego	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt Kim

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 46, and the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Richard Topping, of Ohio, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

GAZA

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. I have addressed this before, but today I rise with a message that is both straightforward and urgent: Humanitarian aid must immediately reach the civilian population in Gaza.

As one pediatric doctor, the leader of the ward at Nasser Hospital in southern Gaza, said, "There is no one in Gaza now outside the scope of famine, not even myself." This is the pediatrician who leads the ward. "I am speaking to you as a health official, but I, too, am searching for flour to feed my family."

The New York Times notes:

The World Food Program, an arm of the United Nations, said this week that the hunger crisis in Gaza [has] reached, in their words, "new and astonishing levels of desperation, with a third of the population"—

That is right, one-third—

"not eating for multiple days in a row."

The suffering we are seeing every day is unacceptable. More measures can be and must be taken to allow Palestinian families to access basic necessities. Those include food, medicine, and shelter.

At the same time, we must focus on achieving a cease-fire as soon as possible, one that would release hostages

held by Hamas and allow displaced Palestinians to return home.

Ultimately, what so many of us want to see is a lasting peace and a two-state solution, but that cannot happen when people are starving. As we pursue that goal, however, it is clear that the system for distributing aid that is now in place, run by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, is nowhere near adequate. Yesterday, more than 100 nongovernmental organizations issued an urgent call to action, including CARE, Mercy Corps, Oxfam, Save the Children, and so many more.

Acute malnutrition is rising. Hundreds of Palestinians have been killed in recent weeks while seeking food, most in the vicinity of Gaza Humanitarian Foundation distribution sites and others on the routes of aid convoys. This is simply unacceptable.

Since the collapse of the cease-fire between Israel and Hamas in March, the humanitarian situation has only worsened. Many of us have advocated repeatedly for a change in course. In May, I joined 24 of my colleagues to call on President Trump to press for the immediate resumption of neutral and impartial humanitarian assistance, access, and distribution that fully meets the needs of innocent Palestinian civilians in Gaza. That same month, more than 40 colleagues and I sponsored a resolution calling for the urgent delivery of additional aid to Gaza.

And a few weeks ago, when Prime Minister Netanyahu and his delegation visited the Senate to meet with a bipartisan group of Senators, I attended, and I attended for one reason in my capacity as No. 3 in the Democratic leadership, and that was to raise the issue of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

And I did that. I expressed my strong opposition to cutting off vital humanitarian aid, arguing that more aid groups should be allowed into Gaza at more entry points and also conveyed my opposition to the continued displacement of Palestinians.

I say to my colleagues: You can support the people of Israel. You can be horrified and condemn, as all of us did, the terrorist attack, but we cannot continue to allow people to starve.

I believe U.S. diplomacy must focus on an urgent return to a cease-fire, the release of remaining hostages held by Hamas, and an increase in humanitarian aid to the Palestinians. And following a cease-fire, we must pursue steps to end the war, establish postwar security and government arrangements in Gaza, and ultimately, as I noted, reach a two-state solution, an outcome I have long supported and a view I have conveyed in the past, strongly, to Israeli and Palestinian leadership in meetings here in Washington, DC; in meetings in Israel; and a meeting in the West Bank.

In the immediate term, lives are being lost on a daily basis—kids, innocents—and the Government of Israel must change course.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. President, last week, I stood here and introduced a simple resolution calling on the Justice Department to release the Epstein files, but a Republican Senator blocked it.

In the week since, even more damning information has come out, and now we know exactly why Trump is bending over backwards to keep these files hidden.

We know that Epstein was at Trump's wedding. We know that Epstein once called Trump his "closest friend for 10 years." And we have seen that Trump wrote Epstein a birthday card and said:

"Happy Birthday—and may every day be another wonderful secret."

And the real kicker, we learned yesterday that Trump is in the Epstein files, and he knows it. The truth is coming out, and the coverup is crumbling. So I am here again, and my request is very simple. The Senate should go on record supporting the release of the Epstein files. Any effort to block their release is simply continued cover-up for our Nation's elites.

While I stand here on the Senate floor demanding answers, House Republicans have run for the exit, ended their term early, skipping town early to avoid taking up any more discussion about Epstein and the files. They didn't just punt accountability; they literally fled Washington, DC.

While everyday Americans are struggling to afford their groceries and their healthcare, we have a President in the White House focused on protecting the most powerful men and women who preyed on children. This is who Donald Trump really is. He campaigned as a man of the people. When it comes down to it, he is a servant of the powerful and the elite. He built a movement claiming to fight those same elites, and now he is protecting them every way possible.

The American people are seeing right through it. They spent years listening to Trump promise—promise—that he was going to release the Epstein files, and now he is mocking them every day for even believing him and all his lies. But the American people are not stupid. They know something is off. They smell it.

If Donald Trump really wants these files released, they would be out already. Instead, he is orchestrating a coverup, and he is not acting alone. The entire Republican Party, the FBI Director, the intelligence community, and the Justice Department are backing him up to bury the truth. They are doing everything they can to keep the truth buried because they know who is in those documents, and they want to protect them and his friends.

So, today, I am calling on my colleagues to stand with me and stand on the side of the American people—not

the pedophile elites that they are trying to protect—and call on the Justice Department to release these files. It is that simple. If there is nothing to hide, then come out and prove it.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 325; further, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, as we hear my colleague from Arizona use I would say very liberal truths as to what he was saying by not giving all the facts, I would also pose this question: Where was all this outrage over the last 4 years when Director Wray was over the FBI and Attorney General Garland was over the DOJ?

He knows, I know, and all the Democrats know that if there was anything to do with President Trump, they would have happily released it. My lord, you went after him for everything else you could possibly think of. Why wouldn't you possibly go after this?

Well, it is because this is nothing but political theater. We know that. We know that what your resolution is—it doesn't actually have transparency because we all want transparency. All of us want transparency. We want to know actually what happened. The American people want to know what has happened. But what this resolution does is it actually is a blurred line between the separation of powers.

When we start dictating to the Department of Justice what they can and can't do—there is a clear separation of power. We are the legislative branch. That is what we do. We make laws. We can't dictate to the other branches on what they must and how they must do their job.

Now, with that being said, I would simply ask the question: Why now? Is it because of their hatred toward President Trump, because they want to do anything they can possibly do to distract from what they might be hiding? Why wasn't this done the previous 4 years? What happened? They had the same files. This case wasn't new.

So this resolution does absolutely nothing; therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. President, in response to the Senator from Oklahoma, the reason we are here, the reason why there is a request of this nature is because there is one and only one administration and one campaign that ran more than 8 years that vilified—

vilified—DOJ employees that were consistently trying to do their best job and started a conspiracy theory that has affected hundreds of people across this country, a conspiracy theory that caused people to start doing shootings at pizza places, that accused other people and other politicians of being pedophiles and then said and campaigned that “If you elect me, I will release the files.” That was only one campaign, and that was the Trump campaign.

So now, as he is in power, as he has gotten power, he has specifically said he would release it in campaign. He had an Attorney General that said: I have the files on my desk right now, and I will be releasing it.

As soon as we heard—first from Elon Musk—that Trump himself was in the files, all of a sudden, we started seeing the coverup starting. First he wasn’t. Then he was. Then it was created by somebody else. Then it is coming after him.

This is all because the President has to answer to the American public.

Did you lie for those 8 years and put all these employees, all these innocent people at risk to cover up for your elite friends? Or is there something in the file you are trying to hide to protect your friends?

This whole issue started because of only one person, and one campaign has made this a campaign issue. That is why the American public is demanding this. That is why the Republican House of Representatives has fled Washington, DC—Washington, DC. I have not seen, have not heard of the House of Representatives leaving Washington, DC, since we had to get away from the redcoats, but that is what happened because this President wants to avoid accountability, and this President wants to continue to cover up for his elite friends.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

MR. MULLIN. Mr. President, we all want transparency and for credible information on the Epstein case to be made public so that the American people can decide.

The Trump administration has already said they are committed to releasing all available files. Last week, President Trump directed AG Bondi to produce any and all permanent grand jury testimony in the Epstein case.

My colleague from Arizona’s resolution tells the FBI and the DOJ how to do their job.

My resolution would echo the seriousness of the directive from the President and the DOJ to the courts and calls immediately to unseal all materials. When combined with what our House colleagues have done, this resolution moves forward providing justice to the victims and transparency to the American people.

Mr. President, as I said before, we want transparency, but the courts control the grand jury; the judges that oversee the courts control the grand

jury. We in this body can have resolutions back and forth and suggest that it be done, but truthfully, the judges have to do it. AG Bondi and the President have both already called upon the judges to release this information.

What my resolution is simply saying is that we agree with the President, we agree with AG Bondi on the judges and calling upon the judges to release it.

As if in legislative session and not withstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 335, which is at the desk. Further, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Arizona.

MR. GALLEGOS. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, let me explain to the American people what just happened. My colleague from Oklahoma refused to join me in calling on the DOJ to release all the Epstein files. Instead, he offered his own resolution calling on the courts to unseal the records.

When asked if it did both, which I am asking to do both—I want to call for transparency, and, of course, we could ask the Justice Department and the courts—he is also going to object.

Republicans are demanding that the courts be transparent but aren’t willing to ask the same thing of the Trump DOJ. This is the height of hypocrisy. They want to tell the courts to be transparent but aren’t willing for themselves to be transparent.

This is the second time in 1 week the Senate had the chance to demand transparency and stand up for the truth. Instead, my colleagues chose to protect, again, the powerful elites.

If there is truly nothing to hide in those files, then what are they so afraid of? What are they hiding? Why the panic? Why the backpedaling? Why all the objections?

Congress should work for the people, not the powerful elites and definitely not for one man or one administration. Today’s resolution should have made that clear.

Therefore, I ask that the unanimous consent request be modified such that my resolution, S. Res. 325, be discharged from the Committee on the Judiciary; further, that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of S. Res. 335 and S. Res. 325; and that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, all en bloc.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modification?

The Senator from Oklahoma.

MR. MULLIN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, it is interesting that my colleague wants to continue

talking about the elites, but the elites are the ones who actually covered up the last 4 years of the Biden administration.

I mean, think about what happened during the Biden administration. They covered up, No. 1, for his cognitive behavior; No. 2, they covered up the Hunter Biden laptop; No. 3, they covered up the Russiagate and continue to cover up the Russiagate; and No. 4, they covered up the fact that an autopen signed every—well, every one of his papers except one.

Where was the coverup? Where did the elites come from? Well, it is because of the pressure from the Biden administration that actually did put it on all the social media outlets.

It is interesting, when I started talking to the social media founders after President Trump was elected, they said: We feel like we can actually do our job again. Why? Because the DOJ wasn’t threatening to sue them; the Biden administration wasn’t threatening to blackmail them. Yet my colleague from Arizona is saying that we are covering up for the elites?

Let’s be honest. We know these files have been out there forever. I don’t remember a single time the Biden administration called on these things to be released, and I definitely don’t remember my colleague from Arizona calling for these files to be released.

As I said before, this is nothing more than political theater. Everybody sees it. The American people see it. And what else can President Trump and AG Bondi do but call on the judges to release the information? We are simply going back and forth here saying the same thing.

The difference between my resolution and my colleague from Arizona’s resolution is mine isn’t blurring the boundaries between separation of power; mine is simply calling upon the judges to release the information. What my colleague’s resolution does is truly trying to tell the FBI and the DOJ how they can proceed in doing their job and how they can actually present the information—basically saying: We want all that information to go through Congress.

Well, I am sure Congress has never once played politics with any information. I am sure that this investigation would be handled much like other investigations into this administration that the Democrats have done over the last, I don’t know, 8 years. I am sure this will be handled just like any other thing they have tried to go after, like the baseless impeachments or the baseless special counsels or the unbelievable amount of charges they have tried to file against the President. I am sure this will be handled the exact same way.

What we are simply wanting to do here is give them cover. So if my colleague from Arizona actually wants transparency, then he would drop his objection to my resolution and just simply have mine go through, and we

can move forward with the transparency that maybe both of us actually want.

Therefore, I object to combining them. I would ask my colleague once again to accept my resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard to the modification.

Is there objection to the original request?

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. GALLEGRO. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, let's just understand why we are here. The political theater was started more than 8 years ago—the political theater started just 5 months ago when the President said, after appointing his Attorney General, that they are going to release the Epstein files; when the Attorney General said "I have those files right here; I am going to show them to you," and then, all of a sudden, the shenanigans started. All of a sudden, the files are gone; they are not there; they were made up by somebody else. That is where this political theater is coming from.

The American public wants to know why. Why, after 8 years of this President promising that "I will release the files"; why after 8 years, getting into the office and then appointing his Attorney General and then directing the Attorney General to go look for those Epstein files and that Attorney General saying they are going to release the Epstein files and then poof—all of a sudden, there is an issue. All of a sudden, there is backpedaling.

This is what stinks for the American public. This is what smells like an elite coverup. That is what we are trying to get to.

If my good colleague from Oklahoma agreed with me, then we would do both because that is what is being demanded by the American public, because the first promise was made by this President that they were going to release the files. That is where this political theater started.

With that, Mr. President, I object to the good Senator from Oklahoma's motion, and I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. President, in closing, I would just simply say that maybe my colleague from Arizona and I can work together, if he wants to, and we can drop some of the stuff in his resolution. Maybe we can come up with a conclusion with my resolution. I have concerns about yours blurring the lines between the separation of powers and at the same time want transparency.

If we can both agree we want transparency—we have worked together on several issues in the past. Let's sit down and try working this one out.

Mr. President, with that, I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

NOMINATION OF RICHARD TOPPING

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I want to speak just a moment before we cast a

vote in just a few minutes. I want to speak about the importance of confirming the nomination of Army CPT Richard Topping to be the Chief Financial Officer at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

I chair the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. We have had Mr. Topping before us, and he, as the Chief Financial Officer, if confirmed, is responsible for making certain the VA is a good steward of taxpayer dollars, that the VA has the resources to carry out the Department's mission of caring for our Nation's heroes and their loved ones.

We must have a Chief Financial Officer who puts veterans first, prioritizes accountability and transparency, and understands the importance of this responsibility in helping the Department of Veterans Affairs fulfill its mission.

Captain Topping was raised in a military family and served in the U.S. Army, so he is a veteran. In his testimony before the committee, he shared about the important role the VA played in his life, from caring for his sister who become ill while serving in Iraq to enabling his grandfathers, both World War II veterans, to receive a college education through the GI bill.

He also discussed the importance of using his experience as a servicemember and a veteran to advocate to enhance the VA's financial systems to make certain taxpayer dollars are used effectively and transparently and to improve budget forecasting and management, all of which are critical to the Department's success.

I am grateful to Captain Topping for his willingness to continue serving his fellow veterans in this new capacity, and I look forward to working with him to improve the lives of veterans, caregivers, survivors, and military families in my home State of Kansas and across the country in the coming years. I will be voting yea.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Bove nomination.

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

The Senator from Connecticut.

NOMINATION OF RICHARD TOPPING

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise, sadly and reluctantly, to oppose Richard Topping as the next VA Financial Officer, and I say "sadly and reluctantly" because the VA really needs leadership now at a time of mass firings, freezes on hiring, cuts, and the kinds of chaos that we are seeing at this great institution that serves our Nation's heroes. We need a really experienced, steady, principled financial leader. And, unfortunately, Richard Topping is not that person.

He is not the kind of accountable and transparent leader that the American people and veterans across the country expect at the VA.

When I questioned him at his nomination hearing—just to give you one

example—about a government audit that found extreme errors in his judgment while he was CEO of a company called Cardinal, he blamed the Democrats; he blamed others for his own shortfalls. That is not leadership. That is not what our veterans identify as leadership.

He has never been the chief financial officer of any company. He has never been CEO of a public company—that is to say, an institution responsible to shareholders or to the public—and he lacks essential qualifications in his educational background as well as in his experience.

The VA's 2025 budget request is for \$370 billion. It is second only to the Department of Defense. It needs someone who not only is loyal to President Trump—in fact, more than loyalty to President Trump—it needs someone with the objective qualifications and experience. His main qualification is, in fact, his fealty to Donald Trump.

That is not the qualification that should count here. What we need is someone who will do the job with the excellence and integrity that veterans have a right and need to expect. I urge my colleagues to vote against this nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. I ask unanimous consent that we move up the 1:45 vote to start right now.

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

VOTE ON TOPPING NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Topping nomination?

Mr. MORAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASIDY).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 436 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Banks	Daines	Lankford
Barrasso	Ernst	Lee
Blackburn	Fischer	Lummis
Boozman	Graham	Marshall
Budd	Grassley	McConnell
Capito	Hagerty	McCormick
Collins	Hawley	Moody
Cornyn	Hoeben	Moran
Cotton	Husted	Moreno
Cramer	Hyde-Smith	Mullin
Crapo	Johnson	Murkowski
Cruz	Justice	Paul
Curtis	Kennedy	Ricketts

Risch	Scott (SC)	Tillis
Rounds	Sheehy	Tuberville
Schmitt	Sullivan	Wicker
Scott (FL)	Thune	Young

NAYS—47

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt	Cassidy
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The nomination was confirmed.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

CLOTURE MOTION

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 292, Emil J. Bove III, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

John Thune, Lindsey Graham, Katie Boyd Britt, Eric Schmitt, Tommy Tuberville, Marsha Blackburn, Mike Crapo, John Barrasso, Rick Scott of Florida, Chuck Grassley, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Cornyn, Kevin Cramer, Ron Johnson, Ashley B. Moody, Mike Lee, Josh Hawley.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. Under the previous order, the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Emil J. Bove III, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. **BARRASSO**. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. **BRITT**).

Mr. **DURBIN**. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Mr. **GALLEGO**) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 437 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Banks	Blackburn	Budd
Barrasso	Boozman	Capito

Cassidy	Husted	Paul
Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Ricketts
Cotton	Johnson	Risch
Cramer	Justice	Rounds
Crapo	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cruz	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Curtis	Lee	Scott (SC)
Daines	Lummis	Sheehy
Ernst	Marshall	Sullivan
Fischer	McConnell	Thune
Graham	McCormick	Tillis
Grassley	Moody	Tuberville
Hagerty	Moran	Wicker
Hawley	Moreno	Young
Hoeven	Mullin	

NAYS—48

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Collins	Lujan	Slotkin
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Welch
Hassan	Padilla	Whitehouse
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

NOT VOTING—2

Britt	Gallego
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The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 48. The motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Emil J. Bove III, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 273.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David Wright, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2030. (Reappointment)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 273, David Wright, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2030. (Reappointment)

John Thune, David McCormick, Tom Cotton, Thom Tillis, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Ron Johnson, Kevin Cramer, Jim Banks, Dan Sullivan, Pete Ricketts, Rick Scott of Florida, Ted Budd, Jim Justice.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 110.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Earl Matthews, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 110, Earl Matthews, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

John Thune, Pete Ricketts, John Barrasso, Tim Sheehy, Bernie Moreno, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, John Hoeven, Marsha Blackburn, Bill Cassidy, John R. Curtis, Jim Justice, Thom Tillis, Katie Boyd Britt, Markwayne Mullin.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. **THUNE**. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER**. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 94.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of William Kimmitt, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 94, William Kimmitt, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade.

John Thune, David McCormick, Tom Cotton, Thom Tillis, Tim Scott of South Carolina, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Eric Schmitt, Roger Marshall, Ron Johnson, Kevin Cramer, Jim Banks, Dan Sullivan, Pete Ricketts, Rick Scott of Florida, Ted Budd, Jim Justice.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 274.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Susan Monarez, of Wisconsin, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (New Position).

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 274, Susan Monarez, of Wisconsin, to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (New Position)

John Thune, Kevin Cramer, Rick Scott of Florida, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, John R. Curtis, Pete Ricketts, Tim Sheehy, Roger Marshall, Jim Justice, Cynthia M. Lummis, Ron Johnson, John Barrasso, Chuck Grassley, Steve Daines, David McCormick, Bernie Moreno.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 85.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Samuel Brown, of Nevada, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 85, Samuel Brown, of Nevada, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs.

John Thune, Dan Sullivan, John Barrasso, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Cynthia M. Lummis, Tom Cotton, James Lankford, Bernie Moreno, John R. Curtis, Ted Budd, Mike Crapo, Katie Boyd Britt, Jim Banks, Markwayne Mullin, Jon A. Husted, Steve Daines.

Mr. THUNE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal which was referred to the appropriate committee.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1549. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study and report on the exposure of the United States to the financial sector of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3357. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers with a multi-class stock structure to make certain disclosures in any proxy or consent solicitation material, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1316. An act to amend the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 relating to licensing transparency.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1549. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study and report on the exposure of the United States to the financial sector of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3357. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require issuers with a multi-class stock structure to make certain disclosures in any proxy or consent solicitation material, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1369. A communication from the Manager of Legal Litigation and Support, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Yellowstone Regional Airport, Cody, WY" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2025-0405)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1370. A communication from the Manager of Legal Litigation and Support, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-23064" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2025-0350)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1371. A communication from the Manager of Legal Litigation and Support, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-23063" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2025-0352)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1372. A communication from the Manager of Legal Litigation and Support, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Engines; Amendment 39-23061" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2024-2668)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2025; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2431. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-46).

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2465. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-47).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Michael G. Waltz, of Florida, to be Representative of the United States of America

to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

*Michael G. Waltz, of Florida, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the Rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

Nominee: Michael Waltz.
Post: U.S. Representative to the United Nations.

Nominated: 6/12/2025.
(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:
Spouse, Julia Nesheiwat: \$242.30, 11/30/2023, Transcanada USA Services; \$242.30, 12/31/2023, Transcanada USA Services; \$242.30, 1/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$242.30, 2/29/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$374.37, 3/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 4/30/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 5/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 6/30/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 7/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$374.37, 8/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 9/30/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$124.79, 10/16/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$374.37, 11/25/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 12/31/2024, Transcanada USA Services; \$374.37, 1/31/2025, Transcanada USA Services; \$249.58, 2/28/2025, Transcanada USA Services; \$258.94, 3/31/2025, Transcanada USA Services.

By Mr. CASSIDY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

*Mary Riley, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education.

*Brian Christine, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

*Jonathan Snare, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2029.

*David Brian Castillo, of Washington, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Labor.

*David Barker, of Iowa, to be Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

*Brittany Panuccio, of Florida, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2029.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 2425. A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to provide penalties for unauthorized access to intelligence community property, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. TILLS, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2426. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 2427. A bill to require certain agencies to impose extendable sunset dates on certain regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SHEEHY, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 2428. A bill to amend chapter 1511 of title 36, United States Code, to impose certain requirements on the National Education Association, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KIM, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2429. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to ensure the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection retains adequate resources to ensure fair, transparent, and competitive markets for financial products and services for consumers and to provide for whistleblower incentives and protection; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. SHEEHY):

S. 2430. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study regarding insurance coverage for damages from wildfires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2431. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 2432. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6444 San Fernando Road in Glendale, California, as the "Paul Ignatius Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 2433. A bill to require providers to disclose policies regarding the minimum gestational age at which life-saving care will be provided to an infant in the case of a premature birth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HUSTED (for himself and Mr. MORENO):

S. 2434. A bill to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992 to adjust the boundary of the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2435. A bill to require that all new washing machines sold or offered for sale in the United States contain a microfiber filtration system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2436. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to establish a grant program to assist with the purchase, installation, and maintenance of point-of-entry and point-of-use drinking water quality improvement products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 2437. A bill to amend the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program Authorization Act to reauthorize the Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 2438. A bill to assist employers providing employment under special certificates issued under section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 in transforming their business and program models to models that support people with disabilities through competitive integrated employment, to phase out the use of such special certificates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KING, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SLOTKIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2439. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S. 2440. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land located in Franklin County, Mississippi, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2441. A bill to provide for adjustments to community development block grant allocations based on improvements in housing growth rates; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2442. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide support for organic dairy producers and processors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2443. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a small business start-up tax credit for veterans creating businesses in underserved communities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2444. A bill to eliminate certain subsidies for fossil-fuel production; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2445. A bill to promote mental wellness and resilience and prevent and heal mental health, behavioral health, and psychosocial conditions through developmentally and culturally appropriate community programs, and award grants for the purpose of establishing, operating, or expanding community-based mental wellness and resilience pro-

grams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2446. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2447. A bill to repeal changes to Medicaid cost sharing requirements and the exclusion for orphan drugs under the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2448. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve dependent coverage under the TRICARE Young Adult Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HUSTED, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2449. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to elect to receive certain replacement refunds electronically; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2450. A bill to amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a national biochar research network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2451. A bill to ensure that paraprofessionals and education support staff are paid a living wage; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 2452. A bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. KIM:

S. 2453. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to establish and maintain a security cooperation initiative to strengthen cooperation among the defense industrial bases of the United States and allied and partner countries in the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2454. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 2455. A bill to create an administrative subpoena process to assist copyright owners in determining which of their copyrighted works have been used in the training of artificial intelligence models; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 2456. A bill to establish rural export centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2457. A bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2458. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to establish the Office of Employee Ownership to carry out the Employee Ownership Initiative and establish and carry out the Employee Ownership Loan Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2459. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow employers to contribute to ABLE accounts in lieu of retirement plan contributions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2460. A bill to establish a pilot program to convert blighted buildings into housing; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. HUSTED):

S. 2461. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 2462. A bill to strengthen requirements related to nutrient information on food labels; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2463. A bill to provide grants to State and local governments that enact or are fiscally responsible for implementing right to counsel legislation for low-income tenants facing eviction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. MORENO, Mr. KIM, Mr. MCCORMICK, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2464. A bill to allow the Comptroller of the Currency and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to increase the aggregate amount of investments that a national banking association and a State member bank may make to promote the public welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S. 2465. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 2466. A bill to provide for an extension of funding outreach and assistance for low-income programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2467. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve biorefinery, renewable chemical, and biobased product manufacturing assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S.J. Res. 69. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Record of Decision for the Barred Owl Management Strategy; Washington, Oregon, and California"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. Res. 335. A resolution calling on Federal and State courts to provide full transparency to the people of the United States by unsealing materials concerning Mr. Jeffrey Epstein; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 336. A resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of Pratt & Whitney; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 337. A resolution recognizing the 250th anniversary of the postal service of the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. KING, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. Res. 338. A resolution recognizing the importance of independent living and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for further action to strengthen and expand health care for individuals with disabilities to work and live in the community; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 94

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 94, a bill to award 3 Congressional Gold Medals to the members of the 1980 United States Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Team, in

recognition of their extraordinary achievement at the XIII Olympic Winter Games where, being comprised of amateur collegiate players, they defeated the dominant Soviet ice hockey team in the historic "Miracle on Ice", revitalizing morale in the United States at the height of the Cold War, inspiring generations, and transforming the sport of ice hockey in the United States.

S. 284

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 284, a bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. 545

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes.

S. 964

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 964, a bill to amend title I of the National Housing Act to increase the loan limits and clarify that property improvement loans may be used for construction of accessory dwelling units.

S. 1163

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1163, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 1486

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1486, a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas.

S. 1919

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1919, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a domestic cotton consumption credit.

S. 1932

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1932, a bill to amend the National Housing Act and the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers and to require a military service question on the Uniform Residential Loan Application, and for other purposes.

S. 1965

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1965, a bill to eliminate employment-based visa caps for abused, abandoned, and neglected children who are classified as special immigrant juveniles, and for other purposes.

S. 2035

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2035, a bill to establish statutory rights to choose to receive, provide, and cover fertility treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 2210

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2210, a bill to ensure that the provision of portable benefits to an individual is not considered in determining whether such individual is an employee of a person, and for other purposes.

S. 2211

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2211, a bill to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

S. 2362

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2362, a bill to oppose the provision of assistance to the People's Republic of China by the multilateral development banks.

S. 2367

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2367, a bill to establish a Federal tort relating to the appropriation, use, collection, processing, sale, or other exploitation of individuals' data without express, prior consent.

S. 2377

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2377, a bill to ensure affordable abortion coverage and care for every person, and for other purposes.

S. 2379

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 2379, a bill to amend the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 to authorize the State Justice Institute to provide awards to certain organizations to establish a State judicial threat intelligence and resource center.

S. 2386

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2386, a bill to limit the use of Federal law enforcement officers for crowd control, and for other purposes.

S. 2398

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2398, a bill to reauthorize the Kay Hagan Tick Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2421

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2421, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide exclusions from the term “navigable waters”, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 307

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 307, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the recent United States and Israeli military strikes on Iran.

AMENDMENT NO. 3000

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3000 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3944, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2426. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2426

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act”.

SEC. 2. COVERAGE OF PHARMACIST SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE PART B.

(a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended—

(1) in subsection (s)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (JJ), by adding “and” at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(KK) pharmacist services (as defined in subsection (nnn));”;

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

“(nnn) PHARMACIST SERVICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘pharmacist services’ means such services furnished by a pharmacist, and such services and supplies furnished as an incident to the pharmacist’s service, which the pharmacist is legally authorized to perform under State law as would otherwise be covered if furnished by a physician or as an incident to a physicians’ service which—

“(A) in the case such State law requires such services to be furnished under the supervision of, or working in collaboration with, a physician or practitioner (as defined in section 1842(b)(18)(C)(i)), are so furnished under the supervision of, or working in collaboration with, such physician or practitioner in the manner and to the extent as so required by such State law; and

“(B) are—

“(i) for visits for the evaluation and management of individuals for testing or treatment for COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, or streptococcal pharyngitis; or

“(ii) testing or treatment services that address a public health need related to a public health emergency declared under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (as determined by the Secretary).

“(2) COLLABORATION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘collaboration’ means a process in which a pharmacist works with a physician or practitioner (as defined in section 1842(b)(18)(C)(i)), as applicable, to deliver health care services within the scope of the pharmacist’s professional expertise, with medical direction and appropriate supervision as provided for in jointly developed guidelines or other mechanisms as defined by the law of the State in which the services are performed.”.

(b) PAYMENT.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and (HH)” and inserting “(HH)”; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, and (II) with respect to pharmacist services (as defined in section 1861(nnn)), the amounts paid shall be equal to 80 percent of the lesser of (i) the actual charge for the services or (ii) 85 percent (or 100 percent, in the case of such services that address a public health need described in paragraph (2)(B) of such section) of the amount determined under the payment basis under section 1848 for such services.”.

(c) PROHIBITION ON BALANCE BILLING FOR PHARMACIST SERVICES.—Section 1842(b)(18) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(b)(18)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or a pharmacist” after “a practitioner described in subparagraph (C)”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the first sentence, by inserting “, a pharmacist,” after “a practitioner described in subparagraph (C)”; and

(B) in the third sentence—

(i) by inserting “, a pharmacist,” after “a practitioner”; and

(ii) by inserting “, the pharmacist,” after “the practitioner”.

(d) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to items and services furnished on or after January 1, 2026.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. GALLEGU, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 2446. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a be-

havioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Mental Health for Latinos Act to boost our continued efforts to reduce stigma and promote mental wellness, while meeting the diverse needs of Latino communities across the country.

This bill would require SAMHSA to develop a strategy to increase awareness of symptoms of mental illnesses and provide information on evidence-based interventions and treatments that are culturally and linguistically appropriate.

The evidence is clear: We are experiencing a mental health crisis in the Latino community. Disparities within our healthcare system are preventing members of Latino communities from receiving lifesaving mental health services.

These barriers to care are causing too many to suffer in silence, and this must change. Only 47.4 percent of Hispanic adults ages 18 or older with any mental illness received services in 2023. Between 2010 and 2020, the suicide rate among male Hispanic adults, ages 20 to 64, increased by 35.7 percent and the female rate increased by 40.6 percent.

As our Nation confronts an unfolding mental health crisis, this critical legislation reinforces the timeless message that there is zero shame in asking for help and that seeking support is a sign of strength.

I would like to thank Congresswoman Salinas for leading this legislation in the House of Representatives, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Mental Health for Latinos Act as quickly as possible.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2457. A bill to authorize dedicated domestic terrorism offices within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to analyze and monitor domestic terrorist activity and require the Federal Government to take steps to prevent domestic terrorism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2457

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Director” means the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

(2) the term “domestic terrorism” has the meaning given the term in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code;

(3) the term “hate crime incident” means an act described in section 241, 245, 247, or 249 of title 18, United States Code, or in section 901 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3631);

(4) the term “Secretary”, except as otherwise provided, means the Secretary of Homeland Security; and

(5) the term “uniformed services” has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 3. OFFICES TO COMBAT DOMESTIC TERRORISM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF OFFICES TO MONITOR, ANALYZE, INVESTIGATE, AND PROSECUTE DOMESTIC TERRORISM.—

(1) DOMESTIC TERRORISM UNIT.—There is authorized a Domestic Terrorism Unit in the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, which shall be responsible for monitoring and analyzing domestic terrorism activity.

(2) DOMESTIC TERRORISM OFFICE.—There is authorized a Domestic Terrorism Office in the Counterterrorism Section of the National Security Division of the Department of Justice—

(A) which shall be responsible for investigating and prosecuting incidents of domestic terrorism;

(B) which shall be headed by the Domestic Terrorism Counsel; and

(C) which shall coordinate with the Civil Rights Division on domestic terrorism matters that may also be hate crime incidents.

(3) DOMESTIC TERRORISM SECTION OF THE FBI.—There is authorized a Domestic Terrorism Section within the Counterterrorism Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which shall be responsible for investigating domestic terrorism activity.

(4) STAFFING.—The Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Director shall each ensure that each office authorized under this section in their respective agencies shall—

(A) have an adequate number of employees to perform the required duties;

(B) have not less than one employee dedicated to ensuring compliance with civil rights and civil liberties laws and regulations; and

(C) require that all employees undergo annual anti-bias training.

(5) SUNSET.—The offices authorized under this subsection shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) JOINT REPORT ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM.—

(1) BIENNIAL REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 6 months thereafter for the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Director shall submit a joint report authored by the domestic terrorism offices authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a) to—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of the domestic terrorism threat posed by White supremacists and neo-Nazis, including White supremacist and neo-Nazi infiltration of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and the uniformed services;

(B)(i) in the first report, an analysis of incidents or attempted incidents of domestic terrorism that have occurred in the United States since April 19, 1995, including any

White supremacist-related incidents or attempted incidents; and

(ii) in each subsequent report, an analysis of incidents or attempted incidents of domestic terrorism that occurred in the United States during the preceding 6 months, including any White supremacist-related incidents or attempted incidents;

(C) a quantitative analysis of domestic terrorism for the preceding 6 months, including—

(i) the number of—

(I) domestic terrorism-related assessments initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including the number of assessments from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for assessments related to White supremacism;

(II) domestic terrorism-related preliminary investigations initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including the number of preliminary investigations from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for preliminary investigations related to White supremacism, and how many preliminary investigations resulted from assessments;

(III) domestic terrorism-related full investigations initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including the number of full investigations from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for full investigations related to White supremacism, and how many full investigations resulted from preliminary investigations and assessments;

(IV) domestic terrorism-related incidents, including the number of incidents from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for incidents related to White supremacism, the number of deaths and injuries resulting from each incident, and a detailed explanation of each incident;

(V) Federal domestic terrorism-related arrests, including the number of arrests from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for arrests related to White supremacism, and a detailed explanation of each arrest;

(VI) Federal domestic terrorism-related indictments, including the number of indictments from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for indictments related to White supremacism, and a detailed explanation of each indictment;

(VII) Federal domestic terrorism-related prosecutions, including the number of prosecutions from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for prosecutions related to White supremacism, and a detailed explanation of each prosecution;

(VIII) Federal domestic terrorism-related convictions, including the number of convictions from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for convictions related to White supremacism, and a detailed explanation of each conviction; and

(IX) Federal domestic terrorism-related weapons recoveries, including the number of each type of weapon and the number of weapons from each category and subcategory, with a specific category or subcategory for weapons recoveries related to White supremacism; and

(ii) an explanation of each individual case that progressed through more than one of the stages described in clause (i)—

(I) including the specific category or subcategory for the case; and

(II) not including personally identifiable information not otherwise releasable to the public; and

(D) a certification that each of the assessments and investigations described in subparagraph (C) is in compliance with all appli-

cable civil rights and civil liberties laws and regulations.

(3) HATE CRIMES.—In compiling a joint report under this subsection, the domestic terrorism offices authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a) shall, in consultation with the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice and the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, review each Federal hate crime charge and conviction during the preceding 6 months to determine whether the incident also constitutes a domestic terrorism-related incident.

(4) CLASSIFICATION AND PUBLIC RELEASE.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) unclassified, to the greatest extent possible, with a classified annex only if necessary; and

(B) in the case of the unclassified portion of the report, posted on the public websites of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(5) NONDUPLICATION.—If 2 or more provisions of this subsection or any other law impose requirements on an agency to report or analyze information on domestic terrorism that are substantially similar, the agency may produce one report that complies with each such requirement as fully as possible.

(c) DOMESTIC TERRORISM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized a Domestic Terrorism Executive Committee (in this subsection referred to as the “Committee”) within the Department of Justice.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The members of the Committee shall include—

(A) a representative from the Terrorism and National Security Subcommittee of the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys;

(B) a representative from the Counterterrorism Section of the National Security Division of the Department of Justice;

(C) a representative from the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice;

(D) a representative from the Domestic Terrorism Section of the Counterterrorism Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation authorized under subsection (a)(3); and

(E) a representative from the Domestic Terrorism Unit of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security authorized under subsection (a)(1).

(3) DUTIES.—The Committee shall—

(A) meet on a regular basis, and not less frequently than 4 times each year, to coordinate with United States Attorneys and other key public safety officials across the United States to promote information sharing and ensure an effective, responsive, and organized joint effort to combat domestic terrorism; and

(B) convene local forums, not less frequently than 4 times each year, to connect community groups with Federal law enforcement agencies to—

(i) help increase community understanding and reporting of domestic terrorism;

(ii) build trust between law enforcement agencies and the communities most impacted by domestic terrorism; and

(iii) create and strengthen alliances between law enforcement agencies and other government partners and groups to combat domestic terrorism.

(d) FOCUS ON GREATEST THREATS.—The domestic terrorism offices authorized under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a) shall focus their limited resources on the most significant domestic terrorism threats, as determined by the number of domestic terrorism-related incidents from each category and subcategory in the joint report for

the preceding 6 months required under subsection (b).

SEC. 4. TRAINING TO COMBAT DOMESTIC TERRORISM.

(a) **REQUIRED TRAINING AND RESOURCES.**—The Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Director shall review the anti-terrorism training and resource programs of their respective agencies that are provided to Federal, State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies, including the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Program that is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance of the Department of Justice, and ensure that such programs include training and resources to assist State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies in understanding, detecting, deterring, and investigating acts of domestic terrorism and White supremacist and neo-Nazi infiltration of law enforcement and corrections agencies. The Attorney General shall make training available to Department prosecutors and to Assistant United States Attorneys on countering and prosecuting domestic terrorism. The domestic-terrorism training shall focus on the most significant domestic terrorism threats, as determined by the quantitative analysis in the joint report required under section 3(b).

(b) **REQUIREMENT.**—Any individual who provides domestic terrorism training required under this section shall have—

- (1) expertise in domestic terrorism; and
- (2) relevant academic, law enforcement, or other community-based experience in matters related to domestic terrorism.

(c) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act and twice each year thereafter, the Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Director shall each submit a report to the committees of Congress described in section 3(b)(1) on the domestic terrorism training implemented by their respective agencies under this section, which shall include copies of all training materials used and the names and qualifications of the individuals who provide the training.

(2) **CLASSIFICATION AND PUBLIC RELEASE.**—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be unclassified, to the greatest extent possible, with a classified annex only if necessary; and

(B) in the case of the unclassified portion of each report, be posted on the respective public website of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SEC. 5. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, the Director, the Secretary, and the Secretary of Defense shall establish an interagency task force to analyze and combat White supremacist and neo-Nazi infiltration of the uniformed services and Federal law enforcement agencies.

(b) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the interagency task force is established under subsection (a), the Attorney General, the Director, the Secretary, and the Secretary of Defense shall submit a joint report on the findings of the task force and the response of the Attorney General, the Secretary, and the Secretary of Defense to such findings, to—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(C) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

(F) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(H) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) **CLASSIFICATION AND PUBLIC RELEASE.**—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be—

(A) submitted in unclassified form, to the greatest extent possible, with a classified annex only if necessary; and

(B) in the case of the unclassified portion of the report, posted on the public website of the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Defense.

SEC. 6. FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR ADDRESSING HATE CRIME INCIDENTS WITH A NEXUS TO DOMESTIC TERRORISM.

(a) **COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE.**—The Community Relations Service of the Department of Justice, authorized under section 1001(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000g), may offer the support of the Service to communities where the Department of Justice has brought charges in a hate crime incident that has a nexus to domestic terrorism.

(b) **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.**—Section 249 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) **FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.**—The Attorney General, acting through the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall assign a special agent or hate crimes liaison to each field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate hate crime incidents (as defined in section 2 of the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act of 2025) with a nexus to domestic terrorism (as defined in such section 2).”.

SEC. 7. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, may be construed to authorize the infringement or violation of any right protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States or an applicable provision of Federal law.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Defense such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 335—CALLING ON FEDERAL AND STATE COURTS TO PROVIDE FULL TRANSPARENCY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES BY UNSEALING MATERIALS CONCERNING MR. JEFFREY EPSTEIN

Mr. MULLIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 335

Whereas Mr. Jeffrey Epstein pled guilty to charges of soliciting a child for prostitution and soliciting a prostitute in Florida in 2008;

Whereas in 2008, following a lengthy Federal investigation, Mr. Epstein secured a Federal non-prosecution agreement from the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida;

Whereas Mr. Epstein was arrested on July 6, 2019, by Federal authorities, accused of

sexually exploiting and abusing dozens of underage girls as young as 14 by enticing them to engage in sex acts with him in exchange for money, and charged with sex trafficking of minors and conspiracy to engage in sex trafficking of minors;

Whereas the Chief Medical Examiner of New York City ruled that the death of Mr. Epstein on August 10, 2019, while in Federal custody at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York City, was a suicide;

Whereas on June 28, 2022, Ms. Ghislaine Maxwell was sentenced to 20 years in prison for conspiring with Mr. Epstein to sexually abuse minors;

Whereas the circumstances surrounding the life of Mr. Epstein and the death of Mr. Epstein while in Federal custody have sparked a firestorm of public interest in the case relating to Mr. Epstein;

Whereas, as the Department of Justice has noted, “[m]uch of the material [relating to Mr. Epstein] is subject to court-ordered sealing”; and

Whereas the public interest in the materials relating to Mr. Epstein that are sealed by a court order greatly outweighs any privacy interests, including those of the deceased Mr. Epstein and his associate, Ms. Maxwell: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon applicable Federal and State courts to immediately unseal all materials, including grand jury materials, sealed as part of any criminal investigation, proceeding, or prosecution of Mr. Jeffrey Epstein or Ms. Ghislaine Maxwell, subject only to continuing redactions to protect victims and preserve ongoing prosecutions; and

(2) supports full transparency and public access to these materials.

SENATE RESOLUTION 336—CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRATT & WHITNEY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 336

Whereas 2025 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding in 1925 of Pratt & Whitney by Frederick Rentschler, whose vision revolutionized aviation with the creation of the dependable air-cooled Wasp engine;

Whereas Pratt & Whitney, headquartered in East Hartford, Connecticut, has since become a global leader in the design, manufacture, and service of aircraft engines and auxiliary power units for commercial, military, and business aircraft, and helicopters;

Whereas Pratt & Whitney has contributed to every major advancement in powered flight over the past century, helping to drive innovation, support national defense, and enable safe, efficient air travel around the world;

Whereas, for the 100 years since 1925, the people of Connecticut have been at the heart of the success of Pratt & Whitney, including machinists, engineers, technicians, veterans, and countless other skilled employees whose dedication and ingenuity continue to power the future of aviation; and

Whereas the continued investment of Pratt & Whitney in workforce development, manufacturing, sustainability, and community partnership has strengthened the economy and aerospace leadership of Connecticut: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) proudly celebrates the achievements and legacy of Pratt & Whitney, recognizing a century of excellence in engineering, innovation, and public service;

(2) commends and thanks the countless skilled employees, past and present, who have been the bedrock of the success of Pratt & Whitney, including machinists, engineers, technicians, and veterans; and

(3) encourages all citizens to join in honoring the extraordinary contributions of this iconic company to the State of Connecticut, the United States, and the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 337—RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE POSTAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 337

Whereas, on July 26, 1775, the Second Continental Congress founded the first national postal service to facilitate secure communication between the Continental Army, Congress, and citizens during the American Revolution;

Whereas the importance of a postal service is recognized in the Constitution, which gave Congress the power to establish post offices and post roads;

Whereas the postal service has grown from 75 post offices in the original 13 colonies to more than 30,000 locations in every corner of the United States;

Whereas the postal service holds a unique place in the history of the United States and in the hearts of the people;

Whereas the postal service embodies the spirit of innovation, determination, longevity, and resilience of the United States;

Whereas the postal service has facilitated commerce and united the United States;

Whereas the United States Postal Service was established as an independent establishment of the Federal Government in 1971;

Whereas the United States Postal Service provides all people in all parts of the United States with universal and open access to its delivery network; and

Whereas the United States Postal Service remains a vital part of the critical infrastructure of the United States through the delivery of mail and package services 6 days each week to 168,600,000 delivery points: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the postal service;

(2) honors the men and women who served and continue to serve as employees of the postal service;

(3) celebrates 250 years of service by the postal service to the people of the United States and looks forward to another 250 years of service; and

(4) invites the people of the United States to join in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the postal service by writing a letter, buying stamps, or recognizing a postal employee.

SENATE RESOLUTION 338—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES MADE POSSIBLE BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 AND CALLING FOR FURTHER ACTION TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND HEALTH CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO WORK AND LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. KING, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. GALLEG0) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 338

Whereas, in enacting the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), Congress recognized that “historically, society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities, and, despite some improvements, such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem”;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 recognizes the rights of individuals with disabilities to fully participate in their communities through independent living, equality of opportunity, and economic self-sufficiency;

Whereas, 35 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and 26 years after the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), many individuals with disabilities continue to live in segregated institutional settings because of an institutional bias in the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) (referred to in this preamble as “Medicaid”) and a lack of resources for community support services;

Whereas, 35 years after the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990—

(1) more than one-third of individuals with disabilities rely on Medicaid for health insurance;

(2) Medicaid makes it possible for individuals with disabilities to live in their own homes rather than in institutions;

(3) children with disabilities access school-based health services through Medicaid; and

(4) Medicaid is an essential support for individuals with disabilities to obtain and maintain work;

Whereas the continuation of segregated institutional settings has hindered the inclusion of individuals with disabilities in communities, schools, and workplaces, undermining the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas individuals with disabilities, especially those of color, have been disparately impacted by the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the number of individuals with disabilities has increased due to Long COVID;

Whereas individuals with disabilities are at a greater risk of loss of life, loss of inde-

pendence, or violation of civil rights than the general population during the increasing number of natural disasters in the United States and the response to and recovery from such disasters;

Whereas individuals of color with disabilities experience disproportionately greater barriers to high quality and accessible healthcare, education, housing, and competitive integrated employment opportunities, infringing on the right of individuals to fully participate in their communities under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

Whereas the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 represents the floor, not the ceiling, of efforts needed to dismantle barriers to full participation, equal opportunity, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas fulfilling the promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires individuals, families, communities, and government to work together to guarantee that individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to thrive in their communities throughout their lives: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of independent living, equal opportunity, full participation, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.);

(2) encourages the people of the United States to celebrate the advancement of inclusion and equality of opportunity made possible by the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

(3) pledges to continue to work on a bipartisan basis to identify and address the remaining barriers that undermine the national goals of equality of opportunity, independent living, economic self-sufficiency, and full participation for individuals with disabilities, including by focusing on individuals with disabilities who remain segregated in institutions;

(4) pledges to work with States to improve funding for and access to home and community-based services for individuals with disabilities, with a focus on increasing access to employment;

(5) admonishes against recent cuts, and any future cuts, to the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.), including the establishment of burdensome work-reporting requirements and other barriers, which puts the health of individuals with disabilities at risk and hinders the progress made since the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;

(6) calls on the Department of Labor to develop policies and practices, and to provide technical assistance, to increase the number and quality of competitive integrated employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities that enable such individuals to become economically self-sufficient;

(7) calls on the Federal Communications Commission to provide information, resources, and technical assistance to enable individuals with disabilities to have full and equitable access to communications and telecommunications services and technologies;

(8) calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to fully staff and support the Administration for Community Living and to champion independent living by providing information, resources, and technical assistance related to home- and community-based services;

(9) calls on the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide accessible and inclusive homes and communities that increase the options available for accessible,

inclusive, and equitable housing for individuals with disabilities;

(10) calls on the Department of Transportation to create accessible transit and airports and increase the hiring, promotion, and retention of individuals with disabilities in the transportation workforce; and

(11) calls on the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue to implement a whole community approach and to increase inclusivity and accessibility in emergency preparedness.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3019. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3020. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3021. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3022. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3023. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3024. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3025. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3026. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3027. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3028. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3029. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3030. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3031. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944,

making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3032. Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3033. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3034. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3035. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3036. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3037. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3038. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3019. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. ____ LIMITATION ON RESCISSIONS AND DEFERRALS.

For each department or agency funded in this or any other appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026, authorities provided in sections 1012 through 1017 of the Impoundment Control Act, Title X of P.L. 93-344, as amended, shall not apply and any such rescissions or deferrals of the funds shall only be considered through annual Congressional appropriations legislation.

SA 3020. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2 ____ LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS TO CARRY OUT REDUCTIONS IN FORCE AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this title for the Department of Veterans Affairs may be obligated or expended to carry out a reduction in force at the Department of Veterans Affairs unless such reduction in force is carried out in full accordance with the policies, procedures, and guidance set forth in part 351 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, including all four phases of the reduction in force procedure set forth under such part.

SA 3021. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ Chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 801(a)(1)(A)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) if the rule relates to a reduction in force at the Federal agency that is authorized under subchapter I of chapter 35, a detailed justification for the reduction in force, which shall include—

“(I) the specific reasons for the reduction in force;

“(II) the anticipated impact of the reduction in force on the employees and operations of the Federal agency;

“(III) any alternatives to the reduction in force that the Federal agency considered, including the reasons that the Federal agency rejected those alternatives;

“(IV) a summary of the consultations that the Federal agency has held with—

“(aa) employees of the Federal agency who will be affected by the reduction in force; and

“(bb) representatives of the employees described in item (aa); and

“(V) a summary of how the reduction in force will impact employees of the Federal agency who are veterans.”; and

(2) by amending section 804(3) to read as follows:

“(3) The term ‘rule’—

“(A) has the meaning given the term in section 551; and

“(B) includes—

“(i) a rule or order relating to a reduction in force at a Federal agency that is authorized under subchapter I of chapter 35; and

“(ii) any significant action by a Federal agency that substantially affects the rights or obligations of non-Federal agency parties, such as a workforce restructuring, office closure, or other action by a Federal agency that has a material impact on the employees or operations of the Federal agency.”.

SA 3022. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. _____. 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, \$1,300,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, each amount provided by this section is designated by the Congress as being for 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 2026 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

SA 3023. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2 _____. REPORT ON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PERSONNEL WORKING WITH DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report describing—

(1) all employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs who—

(A) are acting in coordination with, on behalf of, or as a liaison between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Government Efficiency, and

(B) have access to facilities, systems, and databases of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

(2) the timeline and circumstances under which each employee described in paragraph (1) had access to personal data of veterans or employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs stored in facilities, systems, and databases described in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph;

(3) within which of the facilities, systems, and databases described in paragraph (1)(B) the information described in paragraph (2) was accessed; and

(4) whether the roles of employees described in paragraph (1) require continuing access to data described in paragraph (2).

(b) LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR BASIC PAY OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—If the report required by subsection (a) is not received by the committees described in subsection (a) during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, none of the funds appropriated by this title may be used to provide basic pay for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during the period beginning on the date that is 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date on which the report required by subsection (a) is received by the committees described in such subsection.

SA 3024. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

SEC. 2 _____. REPORT ON PLAN OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO REDUCE WORKFORCE OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on the current plan of the Secretary to reduce the workforce of the Department of Veterans Affairs in fiscal year 2026.

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

(1) The analysis used by the Secretary to determine what, if any, workforce reductions are necessary to provide timely care and benefits for Veterans and why.

(2) How that analysis ensures that wait times will not be adversely affected by such reductions, but rather, assisted.

(c) LESSONS LEARNED.—The Secretary shall ensure that analyses submitted pursuant to subsection (b) incorporate lessons learned from terminations and reinstatements occurring in fiscal year 2025.

SA 3025. Ms. SMITH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report that identifies, as of the date of the report, the total number of veterans participating in the housing choice voucher program under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).

(b) In this section, the term “veteran”—

(1) means a person who, regardless of length of service, was a member of the armed forces (as that term is defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code); and

(2) does not include a person who—

(A) received a dishonorable discharge from the armed forces; or

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

SA 3026. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. 2 _____. LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR BASIC PAY, BENEFITS, AND EXPENSES OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNTIL THE SECRETARY IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH TRAVEL TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) LIMITATION.—None of the amounts appropriated by this title may be used to provide for the provision of basic pay, benefits, or expenses of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs until the Secretary submits to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a certification in writing that the Secretary is in full and ongoing compliance with the requirements of subsections (b) and (c).

(b) ONLINE DISCLOSURE OF TRAVEL INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall make available to the public on a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs, at no cost to access, information regarding the official travel of the Secretary taken since January 20, 2025.

(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure that information made available to the public pursuant to subsection (b)—

(1) is made publicly available on the website of the Department not later than 5 business days after the conclusion of an official trip; and

(2) includes—

(A) a list of the official travel by the Secretary using private aircraft, including—

(i) the date of travel;

(ii) the final destination for the travel;

(iii) the type of private aircraft used; and

(iv) the identity of the owner of the private aircraft;

(B) a list of the official travel by the Secretary using Government aircraft, including—

(i) the date of travel;

(ii) the final destination for the travel; and

(iii) the type of Government aircraft used for the travel;

(C) itineraries for official travel by the Secretary outside the United States; and

(D) a list or chart of the official travel by the Secretary inside the United States that includes—

(i) the location to which the Secretary was traveling;

(ii) the dates of travel;

(iii) the principal who traveled;

(iv) the purpose of the trip;

(v) the mode of travel; and

(vi) the titles of other officers or employees traveling with the Secretary; and

(3) does not include the name or identification number of members of the security detail of the Secretary.

SA 3027. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction,

the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. 2. NOTICE AND HATCH ACT EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VISITS TO MEDICAL FACILITIES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) NOTICE REQUIREMENT FOR OFFICIAL SITE VISITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date that is 30 days before the date on which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs visits a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs for official business of the Secretary and acting in the Secretary's capacity as the Secretary, the Secretary shall provide the appropriate individuals notice of the intent of the Secretary to visit the facility.

(2) APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the appropriate individuals are, with respect to a visit to a medical facility of the Department—

(A) the head of the medical facility;

(B) the Senator of the State in which the medical facility is located; and

(C) the Member of the House of Representatives of the congressional district in which the medical facility is located.

(b) HATCH ACT EVALUATION BEFORE SITE VISITS.—The Secretary may not visit a medical facility of the Department for any reason without first obtaining an opinion from the General Counsel of the Department as to whether that visit would violate a requirement of subchapter III of chapter 73 of title 5, United States Code (often referred to as the "Hatch Act").

SA 3028. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act making appropriations available for the Department of Defense for military construction purposes may be used to construct, renovate, or expand any facility for the purposes of detention of migrants by the Department of Defense or to facilitate detention of migrants by the Department of Homeland Security, including by housing personnel of the Department of Homeland Security.

SA 3029. Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. _____. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this title to ensure that the staffing levels for the Veterans Crisis Line established under section 1720F(h) of title 38, United States Code, do not fall below 2,300 full-time employee equivalents.

SA 3030. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title V, add the following:

SEC. 549A. LIMITATION ON CONSOLIDATION OF SENIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS PROGRAMS.

(a) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense may be used during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2026, to implement any of the proposed U.S. Army Cadet Command (USACC) Rebalance and Optimization Plan elements that would disestablish, or prepare to disestablish, any covered Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps ("SROTC") units.

(2) REACTIVATION REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of the Army shall re-activate any covered SROTC unit inactivated or closed after the end of the 2024-2025 academic year. No amounts authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense may be used during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2026, to resume the inactivation or closure of any covered SROTC unit.

(b) BRIEFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1, 2026, the Secretary of the Army shall brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the USACC Rebalance and Optimization Plan regarding covered SROTC units.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under paragraph (1) shall include, at a minimum, the following elements:

(A) The target commissioning goals for each covered SROTC unit and its commissioning numbers.

(B) The total number of scholarship and non-scholarship participants at each covered SROTC unit.

(C) The percentage of unit graduates pursuing STEM degrees or degrees in other critical fields and a comparison between covered SROTC units and comparable SROTC units.

(D) Any evaluations of the covered SROTC units regarding the units' performance by USACC or the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

(E) The justification for the proposed closure of each covered SROTC unit.

(F) A plan for support to current students at each covered SROTC unit that would allow them to graduate at their current school.

(G) A determination whether, upon reconsideration, any of the covered SROTC units should be retained.

(H) A summary of outreach conducted to affected institutions, cadets, and alumni prior to the announcement of closure or inactivation, including copies of formal correspondence and meeting summaries where available.

(I) Any other related topics the Secretary deems appropriate.

(c) COVERED SROTC UNIT DEFINED.—In this section, the term "covered SROTC unit" means any unit identified in the USACC Rebalance and Optimization Plan for inactivation or closure, including—

- (1) California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo;
- (2) University of Northern Iowa;
- (3) Western Illinois University;
- (4) Truman State University (MO);
- (5) Saint Augustine's University (NC);
- (6) Elizabeth City State University (NC);
- (7) Clarkson University (NY);
- (8) John Carroll University (OH);
- (9) University of Wisconsin Oshkosh;
- (10) West Virginia State University; and
- (11) extension units affiliated with such units.

SA 3031. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2976 submitted by Ms. COLLINS and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. _____. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall modify the medical benefits package of the Department of Veterans Affairs under section 17.38 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulations, to ensure that abortion and other reproductive health care are included as part of such medical benefits package.

SA 3032. Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ENHANCED PROTECTION AGAINST DEBT COLLECTOR HARASSMENT OF SERVICEMEMBERS.

(a) COMMUNICATION IN CONNECTION WITH DEBT COLLECTION.—Section 805 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING SERVICEMEMBER DEBTS.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered individual’ means—

“(A) a covered member or a dependent, as those terms are defined in section 987(i) of title 10, United States Code;

“(B) an individual who was separated, discharged, or released from duty described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 987(i)(1) of title 10, United States Code, but only during the 365-day period beginning on the date of separation, discharge, or release;

“(C) a dependent described in subparagraph (A), (D), (E), or (I) of section 1072(2) of title 10, United States Code, of an individual described in subparagraph (B); or

“(D) a member of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, as defined in section 10143 of title 10, United States Code.

“(2) PROHIBITIONS.—A debt collector may not, in connection with the collection of any debt of a covered individual—

“(A) threaten to have the covered individual reduced in rank;

“(B) threaten to have the covered individual's security clearance revoked; or

“(C) threaten to have the covered individual prosecuted under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Uniform Code of Military Justice’).”

“(3) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to restrict the ability of a debt collector to provide a covered individual with accurate and lawful information regarding any debt owed by the covered individual (including the amount of such a debt, the status of such a debt, or the consequences of nonpayment with respect to such a debt), if providing that information does not violate paragraph (2) or any other provision of this title.”

(b) **UNFAIR PRACTICES.**—Section 808 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) The representation to any covered individual (as defined in section 805(e)(1)) that failure to cooperate with a debt collector will result in—

“(A) a reduction in rank of the covered individual;

“(B) a revocation of the covered individual’s security clearance; or

“(C) prosecution under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Uniform Code of Military Justice’).”

(c) **GAO STUDY.**—

(1) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term “covered individual” has the meaning given the term in subsection (e) of section 805 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692c), as added by this section.

(2) **REQUIREMENT.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and submit a report to Congress on the impact of this section, and the amendments made by this section, on—

(A) the timely delivery of information to a covered individual;

(B) military readiness; and

(C) national security, including the extent to which covered individuals with security clearances would be impacted by uncollected debt.

SA 3033. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. —. REPORT ON NEW WORLD SCREWORM READINESS AND RESPONSE.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress a report on the New World Screwworm domestic readiness and response initiative of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, with a particular focus on—

(1)(A) domestic readiness, including the construction of a domestic production facility in the event of a threat of a domestic outbreak; and

(B) exploring partnerships with States and industry with respect to that construction and other domestic preparedness efforts;

(2) sterile fly production technology and other eradication tools and technologies; and

(3) the benefits of and barriers, including timelines and costs, to enhanced domestic, as compared to international, sterile fly production.

SA 3034. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. SULLIVAN)

submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of division A, add the following:

TITLE XVII—FIGHT CHINA ACT OF 2025

SEC. 1701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Foreign Investment Guardrails to Help Thwart China Act of 2025” or “FIGHT China Act of 2025”.

SEC. 1702. SECRETARY DEFINED.

Except as otherwise provided, in this title, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 1703. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this title, or the application thereof, is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this title and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 1704. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appropriated \$150,000,000 to the Department of the Treasury, out of which amounts may be transferred to the Department of Commerce to jointly conduct outreach to industry and persons affected by this title, for each of the first two fiscal years beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, to carry out this title.

(b) **HIRING AUTHORITY.**—

(1) **BY THE PRESIDENT.**—The President may appoint, without regard to the provisions of sections 3309 through 3318 of title 5, United States Code, not more than 15 individuals directly to positions in the competitive service (as defined in section 2102 of that title) to carry out this title.

(2) **BY AGENCIES.**—The Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce may appoint, without regard to the provisions of sections 3309 through 3318 of title 5, United States Code, individuals directly to positions in the competitive service (as defined in section 2102 of that title) of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Commerce, respectively, to carry out this title.

SEC. 1705. TERMINATION.

This title shall cease to have any force or effect on the date on which the Secretary of Commerce revises section 791.4 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, to remove the People’s Republic of China from the list of foreign adversaries contained in such section.

Subtitle A—Imposition of Sanctions

SEC. 1711. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) with respect to any foreign person determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to be a covered foreign person.

(b) **SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.**—The President may exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of a foreign person that is determined to be a covered foreign person pursuant to subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(c) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the

International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to any person who violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of any prohibition of this section, or an order or regulation prescribed under this section, to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1705(a)).

(d) **EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.**—Sanctions under this section shall not apply with respect to any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States.

(e) **EXCEPTION FOR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES.**—Nothing in this section shall prohibit transactions for the conduct of the official business of the Federal Government by employees, grantees, or contractors thereof.

(f) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 365 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 7 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) states whether each foreign person on the Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List is a covered foreign person; and

(2) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(g) **CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION IN IMPOSING SANCTIONS.**—In determining whether a foreign person is a covered foreign person, the President—

(1) may consider credible information obtained by other countries, nongovernmental organizations, or the appropriate congressional committees that relates to the foreign person; and

(2) may consider any other information that the Secretary deems relevant.

(h) **ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(i) **DELEGATION.**—The President shall delegate the authorities granted by this section to the Secretary.

SEC. 1712. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

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

(A) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) **COUNTRY OF CONCERN.**—The term “country of concern”—

(A) means the People’s Republic of China; and

(B) includes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macau Special Administrative Region.

(3) **COVERED FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “covered foreign person” means a foreign person—

(A)(i) that is incorporated in, has a principal place of business in, or is organized under the laws of a country of concern;

(ii) the equity securities of which are primarily traded in the ordinary course of business on one or more exchanges in a country of concern;

(iii) that is a member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party;

(iv) that is the state or the government of a country of concern, as well as any political

subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof;

(v) that is subject to the direction or control of any entity described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv); or

(vi) that is owned in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by an entity or a group of entities described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv); and

(B) that knowingly engaged in significant operations in the defense and related material sector or the surveillance technology sector of the economy of a country of concern.

(4) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” means a person, country, state, or government (and any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof) that is not a United States person.

(5) NON-SDN CHINESE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX COMPANIES LIST.—The term “Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List” means the list maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury under Executive Order 13959, as amended by Executive Order 14032 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to addressing the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People’s Republic of China), or any successor order.

(6) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) any United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States (including any foreign branch of such an entity); or

(C) any person in the United States.

Subtitle B—Prohibition and Notification on Investments Relating to Covered National Security Transactions

SEC. 1721. PROHIBITION AND NOTIFICATION ON INVESTMENTS RELATING TO COVERED NATIONAL SECURITY TRANSACTIONS.

The Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“TITLE VIII—PROHIBITION AND NOTIFICATION ON INVESTMENTS RELATING TO COVERED NATIONAL SECURITY TRANSACTIONS

“SEC. 801. PROHIBITION ON INVESTMENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may prohibit, in accordance with regulations issued under subsection (e), a United States person from knowingly engaging in a covered national security transaction in a prohibited technology.

“(b) EVASION.—Any transaction by a United States person or within the United States that evades or avoids, has the purpose of evading or avoiding, causes a violation of, or attempts to violate the prohibition set forth in subsection (a) is prohibited.

“(c) WAIVER.—Subject to subsection (d), the Secretary is authorized to exempt from the prohibition set forth in subsection (a) any activity determined by the President, in consultation with the Secretary, the Secretary of Commerce and, as appropriate, the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to be in the national interest of the United States.

“(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) notify the appropriate congressional committees not later than 5 business days after issuing a waiver under subsection (c); and

“(2) include in such notification an identification of the national interest justifying the use of the waiver.

“(e) REGULATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and, as appropriate, the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, may issue regulations to carry out this section in accordance with subchapter II of chapter 5 and chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as ‘Administrative Procedure Act’).

“(2) NON-BINDING FEEDBACK.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall include a process under which a person can request non-binding feedback on a confidential basis as to whether a transaction would constitute a covered national security transaction in a prohibited technology.

“(B) AUTHORITY TO LIMIT FRIVOLOUS FEEDBACK REQUESTS.—In establishing the process required by subparagraph (A), the Secretary may prescribe limitations on requests for feedback identified as frivolous for purposes of this subsection.

“(3) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall account for whether a United States person has self-identified a violation of the prohibition set forth in subsection (a) in determining the legal consequences of that violation.

“(B) SELF-DISCLOSURE LETTERS.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall dictate the form and content of a letter of self-disclosure, which shall include relevant facts about the violation, why the United States person believes its activity to have violated the prohibition set forth in subsection (a), and a proposal for mitigation of the harm of such action.

“(4) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall be subject to public notice and comment.

“(5) LOW-BURDEN REGULATIONS.—In issuing regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall balance the priority of protecting the national security interest of the United States while, to the extent practicable—

“(A) minimizing the cost and complexity of compliance for affected parties, including the duplication of reporting requirements under current regulations;

“(B) adopting the least burdensome alternative that achieves regulatory objectives; and

“(C) prioritizing transparency and stakeholder involvement in the process of issuing the rules.

“(6) PENALTIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall provide for the imposition of civil penalties described in subparagraph (B) for violations of the prohibition set forth in subsection (a).

“(B) PENALTIES DESCRIBED.—

“(i) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—It shall be unlawful for a person to violate, attempt to violate, conspire to violate, or cause a violation of any license, order, regulation, notification requirement, or prohibition issued under this section.

“(ii) CIVIL PENALTY.—The Secretary may impose a civil penalty on any person who commits an unlawful act described in clause (i) in an amount not to exceed the greater of—

“(I) \$250,000; or

“(II) an amount that is twice the amount of the transaction that is the basis of the violation with respect to which the penalty is imposed.

“(iii) DIVESTMENT.—The Secretary may compel the divestment of a covered national security transaction in a prohibited technology determined to be in violation of this title.

“(iv) RELIEF.—The President may direct the Attorney General of the United States to

seek appropriate relief, including divestment relief, in the district courts of the United States, in order to implement and enforce this title.

“(7) BURDEN OF PROOF.—In accordance with section 556(d) of title 5, United States Code, in an enforcement action for a violation of the prohibition set forth in subsection (a), the burden of proof shall be upon the Secretary.

“SEC. 802. NOTIFICATION ON INVESTMENTS.

“(a) MANDATORY NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 450 days after the date of the enactment of this title, the Secretary shall issue regulations prescribed in accordance with subsection (b), to require a United States person that engages in a covered national security transaction in a prohibited technology (unless the Secretary has exercised the authority provided by section 801(a) to prohibit knowingly engaging in such covered national security transaction) or a notifiable technology to submit to the Secretary a written notification of the transaction not later than 30 days after the completion date of the transaction.

“(b) REGULATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 450 days after the date of the enactment of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and, as appropriate, the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall issue regulations to carry out this section in accordance with subchapter II of chapter 5 and chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as ‘Administrative Procedure Act’).

“(2) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall be subject to public notice and comment.

“(3) LOW-BURDEN REGULATIONS.—In issuing regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall balance the priority of protecting the national security interest of the United States while, to the extent practicable—

“(A) minimizing the cost and complexity of compliance for affected parties, including the duplication of reporting requirements under current regulation;

“(B) adopting the least burdensome alternative that achieves regulatory objectives; and

“(C) prioritizing transparency and stakeholder involvement in the process of issuing the rules.

“(4) PENALTIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations issued under paragraph (1) shall provide for the imposition of civil penalties described in subparagraph (B) for violations of the notification requirement set forth in subsection (a).

“(B) PENALTIES DESCRIBED.—

“(i) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—It shall be unlawful for a person to violate, attempt to violate, conspire to violate, or cause a violation of any license, order, regulation, notification requirement, or prohibition issued under this section.

“(ii) CIVIL PENALTY.—A civil penalty may be imposed on any person who commits an unlawful act described in clause (i) in an amount not to exceed the greater of—

“(I) \$250,000; or

“(II) an amount that is twice the amount of the transaction that is the basis of the violation with respect to which the penalty is imposed.

“(5) BURDEN OF PROOF.—In accordance with section 556(d) of title 5, United States Code, in an enforcement action for a violation of the prohibition set forth in subsection (a), the burden of proof shall be upon the Secretary.

“(6) COMPLETENESS OF NOTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, upon receipt of a notification under subsection (a), and in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, promptly inspect the notification for completeness.

“(B) INCOMPLETE NOTIFICATIONS.—If a notification submitted under subsection (a) is incomplete, the Secretary shall promptly inform the United States person that submits the notification that the notification is not complete and provide an explanation of relevant material respects in which the notification is not complete.

“(7) IDENTIFICATION OF NON-NOTIFIED ACTIVITY.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce, shall establish a process to identify covered national security transactions in a prohibited technology or a notifiable technology for which—

“(A) a notification is not submitted to the Secretary under subsection (a); and

“(B) information is reasonably available.

“(c) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any information or documentary material filed with the Secretary pursuant to this section shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code, and no such information or documentary material may be made public by any government agency or Member of Congress.

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The exemption from disclosure provided by paragraph (1) shall not prevent the disclosure of the following:

“(A) Information relevant to any administrative or judicial action or proceeding.

“(B) Information provided to Congress or any of the appropriate congressional committees.

“(C) Information important to the national security analysis or actions of the Secretary to any domestic governmental entity, or to any foreign governmental entity of an ally or partner of the United States, under the direction and authorization of the Secretary, only to the extent necessary for national security purposes, and subject to appropriate confidentiality and classification requirements.

“(D) Information that the parties have consented to be disclosed to third parties.

“(E) Information where the disclosure of such information is determined by the Secretary to be in the national security interest.

“(d) INAPPLICABILITY.—If the Secretary prohibits a covered national security transaction in a prohibited technology under section 801, the requirements of this section shall not apply with respect to the covered national security transaction.

“SEC. 803. REPORT.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date on which the regulations issued under section 801(e) take effect, and not less frequently than annually thereafter for 7 years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

“(1) lists all enforcement actions taken subject to the regulations during the year preceding submission of the report, which includes, with respect to each such action, a description of—

“(A) the prohibited technology or notifiable technology;

“(B) the covered national security transaction; and

“(C) the covered foreign person;

“(2) provides an assessment of whether Congress should amend the definition of the term ‘prohibited technology’ by—

“(A) identifying additional technologies, not currently listed as a prohibited technology, that the Secretary, in consultation

with the Secretary of Commerce and, as applicable, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Energy, the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of any other relevant Federal agencies, determines may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern;

“(B) explaining why each technology identified in subparagraph (A) may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern; and

“(C) recommending the repeal of technologies from the category of prohibited technology to the extent that the technologies no longer pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern;

“(3) lists all notifications submitted under section 802 during the year preceding submission of the report and includes, with respect to each such notification—

“(A) basic information on each party to the covered national security transaction with respect to which the notification was submitted; and

“(B) the nature of the covered national security transaction that was the subject to the notification, including the elements of the covered national security transaction that necessitated a notification;

“(4) includes a summary of those notifications, disaggregated by prohibited technology, notifiable technology, by covered national security transaction, and by country of concern;

“(5) provides additional context and information regarding trends in the prohibited technology, notifiable technology, the types of covered national security transaction, and the countries involved in those notifications; and

“(6) assesses the overall impact of those notifications, including recommendations for—

“(A) expanding existing Federal programs to support the production or supply of prohibited technologies or notifiable technologies in the United States, including the potential of existing authorities to address any related national security concerns;

“(B) investments needed to enhance prohibited technologies or notifiable technologies of concern regarding those technologies; and

“(C) the continuation, expansion, or modification of the implementation and administration of this title, including recommendations with respect to whether the definition of the term ‘country of concern’ under section 807(2) should be amended to add or remove countries.

“(b) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—In preparing the report pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary—

“(1) shall consider information provided jointly by the chairperson and ranking member of any of the appropriate congressional committees;

“(2) may consider credible information obtained by other countries and nongovernmental organizations that monitor the military, surveillance, intelligence, or technology capabilities of a country of concern; and

“(3) may consider any other information that the Secretary deems relevant.

“(c) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

“(d) TESTIMONY REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this title, and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce shall each provide to the Com-

mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives testimony with respect to the national security threats relating to investments by United States persons in countries of concern and broader international capital flows.

“(e) REQUESTS BY APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—After receiving a request that meets the requirements of paragraph (2) with respect to whether a technology should be included in the amendments as described in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall, in preparing the report pursuant to subsection (a)—

“(A) determine if that technology may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern; and

“(B) include in the report pursuant to subsection (a) an explanation with respect to that determination that includes—

“(i) a statement of whether or not the technology, as determined by the Secretary, may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern; and

“(ii) if the Secretary determines that—

“(I) the technology may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern, an explanation for such determination and a recommendation whether that technology should be named a prohibited technology or a notifiable technology; and

“(II) the technology would not pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern, an explanation for such determination.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A request under paragraph (1) with respect to whether a technology may pose an acute threat to the national security of the United States if developed or acquired by a country of concern shall be submitted to the Secretary in writing jointly by the chairperson and ranking member of one or more of the appropriate congressional committees.

“SEC. 804. MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION.

“(a) AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should—

“(1) conduct bilateral and multilateral engagement with the governments of countries that are allies and partners of the United States to promote and increase coordination of protocols and procedures to facilitate the effective implementation of and appropriate compliance with the prohibitions pursuant to this title;

“(2) upon adoption of protocols and procedures described in paragraph (1), work with those governments to establish mechanisms for sharing information, including trends, with respect to such activities; and

“(3) work with and encourage the governments of countries that are allies and partners of the United States to develop similar mechanisms of their own, for the exclusive purpose of preventing the development or acquisition of prohibited technologies by a country of concern.

“(b) STRATEGY FOR MULTILATERAL ENGAGEMENT AND COORDINATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should—

“(1) develop a strategy to work with the governments of countries that are allies and partners of the United States to develop

mechanisms that are comparable to the prohibitions pursuant to this title, for the exclusive purpose of preventing the development and acquisition of prohibited technologies by a country of concern; and

“(2) assess opportunities to provide technical assistance to those countries with respect to the development of those mechanisms.

“(C) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this title, and annually thereafter for four years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

“(1) a discussion of any strategy developed pursuant to subsection (b)(1), including key tools and objectives for the development of comparable mechanisms by the governments of allies and partners of the United States;

“(2) a list of partner and allied countries to target for cooperation in developing their own prohibitions;

“(3) the status of the strategy’s implementation and outcomes; and

“(4) a description of impediments to the establishment of comparable mechanisms by governments of allies and partners of the United States.

“(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

“SEC. 805. PUBLIC DATABASE OF COVERED FOREIGN PERSONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, may establish a publicly accessible, non-exhaustive database that identifies covered foreign persons in a prohibited technology pursuant to this title.

“(b) CONFIDENTIALITY OF EVIDENCE.—The Secretary shall establish a mechanism for the public, including Congress, stakeholders, investors, and nongovernmental organizations, to submit evidence on a confidential basis regarding whether a foreign person is a covered foreign person in a prohibited technology and should be included in the database described in subsection (a), if any.

“(c) EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any information or documentary material filed with the Secretary pursuant to this section shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code, and no such information or documentary material may be made public (other than the identity of a covered foreign person in accordance with subsection (b)).

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not prohibit the disclosure of the following:

“(A) Information relevant to any administrative or judicial action or proceeding.

“(B) Information to Congress or any duly authorized committee or subcommittee of Congress.

“(C) Information important to the national security analysis or actions of the Secretary to any domestic governmental entity, or to any foreign governmental entity of a United States ally or partner, under the exclusive direction and authorization of the Secretary, only to the extent necessary for national security purposes, and subject to appropriate confidentiality and classification requirements.

“(D) Information that the parties have consented to be disclosed to third parties.

“(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The database described in subsection (a), if any, shall not

be considered to be an exhaustive or comprehensive list of covered foreign persons for the purposes of this title.

“SEC. 806. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

“Nothing in this title may be construed to negate the authority of the President under any authority, process, regulation, investigation, enforcement measure, or review provided by or established under any other provision of Federal law, or any other authority of the President or the Congress under the Constitution of the United States.

“SEC. 807. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Except as provided by section 804(d), the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

“(2) COUNTRY OF CONCERN.—The term ‘country of concern’—

“(A) means the People’s Republic of China; and

“(B) includes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macau Special Administrative Region.

“(3) COVERED FOREIGN PERSON.—Subject to regulations prescribed in accordance with this title, the term ‘covered foreign person’ means a foreign person that—

“(A) is incorporated in, has a principal place of business in, or is organized under the laws of a country of concern;

“(B) is a member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party;

“(C) is subject to the direction or control of a country of concern, an entity described in subparagraph (A) or (B), or the state or the government of a country of concern (including any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof); or

“(D) is owned in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by a country of concern, an entity described in subparagraph (A) or (B), or the state or the government of a country of concern (including any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof).

“(4) COVERED NATIONAL SECURITY TRANSACTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such regulations as may be issued in accordance with this title, the term ‘covered national security transaction’ means any activity engaged in by a United States person that involves—

“(i) the acquisition of an equity interest or contingent equity interest in a covered foreign person;

“(ii) the provision of a loan or similar debt financing arrangement to a covered foreign person, where such debt financing—

“(I) is convertible to an equity interest; or

“(II) affords or will afford the United States person the right to make management decisions with respect to or on behalf of a covered foreign person or the right to appoint members of the board of directors (or equivalent) of the covered foreign person;

“(iii) the entrance by such United States person into a joint venture with a covered foreign person;

“(iv) the conversion of a contingent equity interest (or interest equivalent to a contingent equity interest) or conversion of debt to an equity interest in a covered foreign person;

“(v) the acquisition, leasing, or other development of operations, land, property, or other assets in a country of concern that will result in, or that the United States person intends to result in—

“(I) the establishment of a covered foreign person; or

“(II) the engagement of a person of a country of concern in a prohibited technology where it was not previously engaged in such prohibited technology;

“(vi) knowingly directing transactions by foreign persons that the United States person has knowledge at the time of the transaction would constitute an activity described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), or (v), if engaged in by a United States person; or

“(vii) the acquisition of a limited partner or equivalent interest in a venture capital fund, private equity fund, fund of funds, or other pooled investment fund that the United States person has knowledge at the time of the acquisition, intends to engage in an activity described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), or (vi).

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Subject to notice and comment regulations prescribed in consultation with Congress and in accordance with this title, the term ‘covered national security transaction’ does not include—

“(i) any transaction the value of which the Secretary determines is de minimis;

“(ii) any category of transactions that the Secretary determines is in the national interest of the United States;

“(iii) an investment—

“(I) in a security (as defined in section 3(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a))) that is traded on an exchange or the over-the-counter market in any jurisdiction;

“(II) in a security issued by an investment company (as defined in section 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3)) that is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission;

“(III) made as a limited partner or equivalent in a venture capital fund, private equity fund, fund of funds, or other pooled investment fund (other than as described in subsection (II)) where—

“(aa) the limited partner or equivalent’s committed capital is not more than \$2,000,000, aggregated across any investment and co-investment vehicles of the fund; or

“(bb) the limited partner or equivalent has secured a binding contractual assurance that its capital in the fund will not be used to engage in a transaction that would be a covered national security transaction if engaged in by a United States person; or

“(IV) in a derivative of a security described under subclause (I), (II), or (III);

“(iv) any ancillary transaction undertaken by a financial institution (as defined in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code);

“(v) the acquisition by a United States person of the equity or other interest owned or held by a covered foreign person in an entity or assets located outside of a country of concern in which the United States person is acquiring the totality of the interest in the entity held by the covered foreign person;

“(vi) an intracompany transfer of funds, as defined in regulations prescribed in accordance with this title, from a United States parent company to a subsidiary located in a country of concern or a transaction that, but for this clause, would be a covered national security transaction between a United States person and its controlled foreign person that supports operations that are not covered national security transactions or that maintains covered national security transactions that the controlled foreign person was engaged in prior to January 2, 2025;

“(vii) a transaction secondary to a covered national security transaction, including—

“(I) contractual arrangements or the procurement of material inputs for any covered national security transaction (such as raw materials);

“(II) bank lending;

“(III) the processing, clearing, or sending of payments by a bank;
 “(IV) underwriting services;
 “(V) debt rating services;
 “(VI) prime brokerage;
 “(VII) global custody;
 “(VIII) equity research or analysis; or
 “(IX) other similar services;
 “(viii) any ordinary or administrative business transaction as may be defined in such regulations; or
 “(ix) any transaction completed before the date of the enactment of this title.

“(C) ANCILLARY TRANSACTION DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘ancillary transaction’ means—

“(i) the processing, settling, clearing, or sending of payments and cash transactions;
 “(ii) underwriting services;
 “(iii) credit rating services; and
 “(iv) other services ordinarily incident to and part of the provision of financial services, such as opening deposit accounts, direct custody services, foreign exchange services, remittances services, and safe deposit services.

“(5) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ‘foreign person’ means a person that is not a United States person.

“(6) NOTIFIABLE TECHNOLOGY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘notifiable technology’ means a technology with respect to which a covered foreign person—

“(i) designs any advanced integrated circuit that is not covered under paragraph (8)(A)(iii);

“(ii) fabricates any integrated circuit that is not covered under paragraph (8)(A)(iv);

“(iii) packages any integrated circuit that is not covered under paragraph (8)(A)(v); or

“(iv) develops any artificial intelligence system that is not covered under clause (vii), (viii), (ix), or (xvi) of paragraph (8)(A), and that is—

“(I) designed to be used for—

“(aa) any military end use (such as for weapons targeting, target identification, combat simulation, military vehicle or weapons control, military decision-making, weapons design (including chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapons), or combat system logistics and maintenance); or

“(bb) any government intelligence or mass-surveillance end use (such as through incorporation of features such as mining text, audio, or video, image recognition, location tracking, or surreptitious listening devices);

“(II) intended by the covered foreign person or joint venture to be used for—

“(aa) cybersecurity applications;

“(bb) digital forensics tools;

“(cc) penetration testing tools; or

“(dd) control of robotic systems; or

“(III) trained using a quantity of computing power greater than 10^{23} computational operations (such as integer or floating-point operations).

“(B) UPDATES.—The Secretary, in consultation with Congress, may prescribe regulations in accordance with this title to refine the technical parameters of technologies described in subparagraph (A) as reasonably needed for national security purposes or to add or remove categories to or from the list in subparagraph (A).

“(7) PARTY.—The term ‘party’, with respect to a covered national security transaction, has the meaning given that term in regulations prescribed in accordance with this title.

“(8) PROHIBITED TECHNOLOGY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘prohibited technology’ means a technology with respect to which a covered foreign person—

“(i) develops or produces any design automation software for the design of integrated circuits or advanced packaging;

“(ii) develops or produces any—

“(I) electronic design automation software for the design of integrated circuits or advanced packaging;

“(II) front-end semiconductor fabrication equipment designed for the volume fabrication of integrated circuits, including equipment used in the production stages from a blank wafer or substrate to a completed wafer or substrate; or

“(III) equipment for performing volume advanced packaging;

“(iii) designs any integrated circuit designs that meet or exceed the specifications set in Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) 3A090 in Supplement No. 1 to the Export Administration Regulations, or integrated circuits designed for operation at or below 4.5 Kelvin;

“(iv) fabricates integrated circuits that are—

“(I) logic integrated circuits using a non-planar transistor architecture or with a technology node of 16/14 nanometers or less, including fully depleted silicon-on-insulator (FDSOI) integrated circuits;

“(II) NOT-AND (NAND) memory integrated circuits with 128 layers or more;

“(III) dynamic random-access memory (DRAM) integrated circuits using a technology node of 18 nanometer half-pitch or less;

“(IV) integrated circuits manufactured from a gallium-based compound semiconductor;

“(V) integrated circuits using graphene transistors or carbon nanotubes; or

“(VI) integrated circuits designed for operation at or below 4.5 Kelvin;

“(v) packages any integrated circuit using advanced packaging techniques;

“(vi) develops, designs, or produces any commodity, material, software, or technology designed exclusively for use in or with extreme ultraviolet lithography fabrication equipment;

“(vii) develops, designs, or produces any artificial intelligence models trained with at least 10^{25} floating point operations;

“(viii) develops, designs, or produces any artificial intelligence models that rely upon or utilize advanced integrated circuits that meet or exceed the specifications set in Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) 3A090 in Supplement No. 1 to the Export Administration Regulations;

“(ix) develops, designs, or produces any artificial intelligence models designed for use by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, its special administrative regions, or its agencies and instrumentalities;

“(x) develops a quantum computer or produces any critical components required to produce a quantum computer such as a dilution refrigerator or two-stage pulse tube cryocooler;

“(xi) develops or produces any quantum sensing platform designed for, or which the relevant covered foreign person intends to be used for, any military, government intelligence, or mass-surveillance end use;

“(xii) develops or produces quantum networks or quantum communication systems designed for or intended to be used for—

“(I) networking to scale up the capabilities of quantum computers, such as for the purposes of breaking or compromising encryption;

“(II) secure communications, such as quantum key distribution; or

“(III) any other application that has any military, government intelligence, or mass-surveillance end use;

“(xiii) develops, designs, or produces materials, components, avionics, flight control,

propulsion, Global Positioning System (GPS), data relay, and target detection systems designed for use in hypersonic systems or capable of sustainable operations above 1,000 degrees Celsius;

“(xiv) develops, installs, sells, or produces any supercomputer enabled by advanced integrated circuits that can provide theoretical compute capacity of 100 or more double-precision (64-bit) petaflops or 200 or more single-precision (32-bit) petaflops of processing power within a 41,600 cubic foot or smaller envelope;

“(xv) develops, designs, or produces any other technologies in the advanced semiconductors and microelectronics sector, the artificial intelligence sector, the high-performance computing and supercomputing sector, the hypersonic missiles sector, or the quantum information science and technology sector that are—

“(I) defense articles or defense services included on the United States Munitions List set forth in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations under subchapter M of chapter I of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations;

“(II) specially designed and prepared nuclear equipment, parts or components, materials, software, or technologies covered by part 810 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to assistance to foreign atomic energy activities);

“(III) nuclear facilities, equipment, or materials covered by part 110 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to export and import of nuclear equipment and material); or

“(IV) emerging or foundational technologies controlled pursuant to section 1758 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4817); or

“(xvi) develops any artificial intelligence system that is designed to be exclusively used for, or which the relevant covered foreign person intends to be used for, any—

“(I) military end use (such as for weapons targeting, target identification, combat simulation, military vehicle or weapon control, military decision-making, weapons design (including chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear weapons), or combat system logistics and maintenance); or

“(II) government intelligence or mass-surveillance end (such as through incorporation of features such as mining text, audio, or video, image recognition, location tracking, or surreptitious listening devices).

“(B) UPDATES.—The Secretary, in consultation with Congress, may prescribe regulations in accordance with this title to make updates to the technical parameters of technologies described in subparagraph (A) as reasonably needed for national security purposes.

“(9) SECRETARY.—Except as otherwise provided, the term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(10) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ‘United States person’ means—

“(A) any United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States;

“(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States (including any foreign branch of such an entity); or

“(C) any person in the United States.”

Subtitle C—Securities and Related Matters
SEC. 1731. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE NON-SDN CHINESE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX COMPANIES LIST.

(a) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 365 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter for 6 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate

congressional committees a report that states whether any of the following foreign persons qualifies for inclusion on the Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List:

(A) Any PRC person listed on the Military End-User List (Supplement No. 7 to part 744 of the Export Administration Regulations).

(B) Any PRC person listed pursuant to section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (10 U.S.C. 113 note).

(C) Any PRC person listed on the Department of Commerce's Entity List (Supplement No. 4 to part 744 of the Export Administration Regulations).

(2) **PROCESS REQUIRED.**—To prepare the reports under paragraph (1), the President shall establish a process under which the Federal agencies responsible for administering the lists described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) shall share with each other all relevant information that led to the identification of the entities described in such lists.

(3) **RISK-BASED PRIORITIZATION FRAMEWORK.**—In making the initial determinations under paragraph (1), the Secretary may establish a risk-based prioritization framework factoring in prioritization of entity review submitted to the Secretary by the Federal agencies administering the lists described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1).

(4) **ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The report under paragraph (1) may summarize findings concerning entities previously reviewed pursuant to this section and do not necessitate additional review by the Secretary.

(5) **MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—The Secretary shall include in the report required by paragraph (1) an overview of the criteria required for listing on Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List. The heads of the Federal agencies administering the lists described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) shall provide an overview of the criteria for entity identification or listing on each respective list.

(b) **REQUIREMENT FOR DIVESTMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall promulgate rules that prohibit a United States person from knowingly holding securities of entities on the Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List, after the date that is 365 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The prohibitions on investment imposed under paragraph (1) shall not apply to a transaction in a security that is entered into on or before the date that is 365 days after the date of enactment of this Act by a United States person, if such transaction is entered into solely to divest of the security.

(c) **WAIVER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may establish a process under which the requirements of subsection (b) shall not apply if the President determines to do so is necessary to protect the national security or foreign policy objectives of the United States.

(2) **CASE-BY-CASE REQUIREMENT.**—Determinations under paragraph (1) shall be issued on a case-by-case basis for each entity on the Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List.

(3) **NOTICE AND BRIEFING.**—The President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing in advance of issuing a determination under paragraph (1) and shall provide a substantive briefing on the determination to the appropriate congressional committees within 30 days of issuing a determination.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

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

(A) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) **COUNTRY OF CONCERN.**—The term “country of concern”—

(A) means the People's Republic of China; and

(B) includes the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Macau Special Administrative Region.

(3) **NON-SDN CHINESE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX COMPANIES LIST.**—The term “Non-SDN Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List” means the list maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury under Executive Order 13959, as amended by Executive Order 14032 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to addressing the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China), and any successor order.

(4) **PRC PERSON.**—The term “PRC person” means a foreign person that—

(A) is incorporated in a principal place of business in, or is organized under the laws of, a country of concern;

(B) is a member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party;

(C) is the state or the government of a country of concern, as well as any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality thereof; or

(D) is owned in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, 50 percent or more by an entity or a group of entities described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C).

SA 3035. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2296, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2026 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10. IMPROVE WARNINGS ABOUT POTENTIAL PREDATORY PRACTICES REGARDING AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 5901(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter before subparagraph (A) by striking “, each time a claimant under a law administered by the Secretary logs in to a website or online tool of the Department, such website or online tool issues to the claimant” and inserting “each public-facing website and online tool of the Department issues”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “, including individuals lacking recognition by the Secretary as described in subsection (a)” after “chapter”

(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(D) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following subparagraph:

“(E) a message discouraging veterans from sharing their Department account log-in credentials or bank account log-in credentials,

such as usernames or passwords, with anyone.”; and

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

“(3) The Secretary shall carry out this subsection by acting through the Chief Veterans Experience Officer.”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 3036. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. ____. Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that—

(1) assesses the scope and impact of staffing shortages at community-based outpatient clinics of the Department of Veterans Affairs throughout the United States, disaggregated by Veterans Integrated Service Network, geographic region, and clinic type;

(2) identifies the key barriers to recruitment and retention of clinical and non-clinical personnel at such clinics;

(3) evaluates the effectiveness of existing incentive programs (such as hiring bonuses, student loan repayment, housing stipends, and telework flexibility) used to staff such clinics;

(4) provides recommendations for new or expanded authorities or funding tools needed to ensure such clinics are adequately staffed and accessible to veterans; and

(5) assesses future workforce needs for planned or proposed micro-hospitals of the Department, including the expected staffing model for the forthcoming facility in Sussex County, Delaware, and outlines steps the Secretary should take now to ensure timely recruitment and retention of qualified personnel at such sites.

SA 3037. Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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

SEC. ____. (a) Using funds made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2026 under the heading “Medical Services”, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a four-year competitive grant program administered by the Veterans Health Administration to support community-based outpatient clinics in piloting projects that improve care delivery, reduce no-show rates, and enhance health outcomes for veterans.

(b) Eligible uses of amounts awarded pursuant to the grant program established under subsection (a) include the establishment of integrated behavioral health models, the expansion of telehealth, the conduct of peer support initiatives, and the conduct of mobile care outreach.

(c) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives an implementation and evaluation plan for the grant program established under subsection (a).

SA 3038. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3944, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, and Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Act, 2026”.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO ACT.

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. 3. REFERENCES TO REPORT.

(a) Any reference to a “report accompanying this Act” contained in division A shall be treated as a reference to Senate Report 119–43. The effect of such Report shall be limited to division A and shall apply for purposes of determining the allocation of funds provided by, and the implementation of, division A.

(b) Any reference to a “report accompanying this Act” contained in division B shall be treated as a reference to Senate Report 119–37. The effect of such Report shall be limited to division B and shall apply for purposes of determining the allocation of funds provided by, and the implementation of, division B.

(c) Any reference to a “report accompanying this Act” contained in division C shall be treated as a reference to Senate Report 119–44. The effect of such Report shall be limited to division C and shall apply for purposes of determining the allocation of funds provided by, and the implementation of, division C.

DIVISION A—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, namely:

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, \$2,447,609,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$446,388,000 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, \$268,650,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Army” in the report accompanying this 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, \$5,906,524,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$613,213,000 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, \$144,390,000 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 report accompanying this 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, including personnel in the Department of the Air Force when designated by the Secretary of Defense to direct and supervise Military Construction projects in accordance with section 2851 of title 10, United States Code, and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, \$4,090,673,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$718,973,000 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, \$359,200,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Air Force” in the report accompanying this 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, \$3,724,301,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *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 \$211,001,000 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, \$32,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Defense-Wide” in the report accompanying this 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, \$271,230,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$78,380,000 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, \$112,050,000 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 report accompanying this 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, \$292,546,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$73,646,000 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, \$95,900,000 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 report accompanying this 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, \$46,239,000,

to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$6,013,000 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, \$4,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Army Reserve" in the report accompanying this 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, \$2,255,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$2,255,000 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, \$116,268,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$6,970,000 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, \$55,810,000 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 report accompanying this 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, \$481,832,000, 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), \$410,161,000, to remain available until expended.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisi-

tion, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$228,558,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030.

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, \$388,418,000.

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, \$177,597,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030.

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, \$384,108,000.

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, \$274,230,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030.

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, \$369,765,000.

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, \$53,374,000.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND

For the Department of Defense Family Housing Improvement Fund, \$8,315,000, 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, \$497,000, 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 Department 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, unobligated 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, 2030:

"Military Construction, Army", \$45,000,000;
 "Military Construction, Army National Guard", \$15,500,000;
 "Military Construction, Air National Guard", \$11,000,000; and
 "Military Construction, Army Reserve", \$15,000,000:

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 2026 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 2026 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, 2027 for fiscal year 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 military construction projects for which project authorization has not lapsed or for which authorization is extended for fiscal year 2026 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 "Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", \$76,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: *Provided*, That such funds may only be obligated to carry out construction projects specified in a National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2026 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. 129. 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 authorized 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, \$241,947,603,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$29,454,647 of the amount made available for fiscal year 2027 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, \$20,057,841,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, 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, \$97,893,000, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, 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 2026, 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, \$266,736,842.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$45,428, 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 \$1,394,442.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$507,254, which may be paid to the appropriation for “General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration”.

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$6,865,235, as authorized by subchapter V 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 funds made available under this heading are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$75,000,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by subchapter V of chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, \$5,845,241.

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, \$3,879,000,000: *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, 2027.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL SERVICES

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; \$59,858,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, and shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2026, under this heading, \$2,000,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided further*, That of the \$75,039,000,000 to become available on October 1, 2025, previously appropriated under this heading in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (division A of Public Law 119-4), \$15,889,000,000 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, notwith-

standing 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 2026 and 2027 in this or prior Acts.

MEDICAL COMMUNITY CARE

For necessary expenses for furnishing health care to individuals pursuant to chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, at non-Department facilities, \$38,700,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, and shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2026, under this heading, \$2,000,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

MEDICAL SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

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.), \$12,000,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, and shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2026, under this heading, \$350,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided further*, That, of the \$12,700,000,000 to become available on October 1, 2025, previously appropriated under this heading in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (division A of Public Law 119-4), \$610,000,000 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 of 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; \$3,000,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that become available on October 1, 2025; and, in addition, \$11,700,000,000, plus reimbursements, which shall become available on October 1, 2026, and shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available on October 1, 2026, under this heading, \$500,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

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, 2027: *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, \$497,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, \$440,000,000, which shall be for the offices and in the amounts specified under this heading in the report accompanying this Act, of which not to exceed 10 percent for each such office shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *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, \$277,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, \$5,908,000,000, plus reimbursements: *Provided*, That \$1,418,416,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of which not to exceed 3 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided further*, That \$4,488,829,000 shall be for operations and maintenance, of which not to exceed 5 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027, and of which \$118,900,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, for the purpose of facility activations 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 \$755,000 shall be for information technology systems development, and shall remain

available until September 30, 2027: *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.

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, \$3,488,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028: *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, 2026, and are contingent upon the Secretary of Veterans Affairs providing to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a plan by June 1, 2026, containing the following:

(1) an updated life-cycle cost estimate for the EHRM program based on the Department's acceleration of deployments announced in March 2025;

(2) an updated facility-by-facility deployment schedule for all facilities to receive the EHRM program;

(3) a certification that all VA facilities using the new EHR on or before April 1, 2024, have exceeded or met certain health care performance baseline metrics indicating they have returned to their service delivery levels in place prior to the deployment of the new EHR; and

(4) a description of the projected Federal VA staffing levels, contract support, and other relevant activities required, and the resources required to fund those activities, to meet the deployment goal as outlined in (2), including target Federal and contracted staffing levels at VA Central Office and, each local VA medical center with a slated deployment in 2026 and 2027, as well as contract support to provide technical and other change management support to carry out the 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. 401 et seq.), \$296,000,000, of which not to exceed 10 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, onsite 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, \$1,394,000,000, of which \$621,615,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$772,385,000 shall remain available until expended: *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 2026, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2026; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2027: *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 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, \$709,000,000, of which \$467,940,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$241,060,000 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.

COST OF WAR TOXIC EXPOSURES FUND

For investment in the delivery of veterans' health care associated with exposure to environmental hazards, the expenses incident to the delivery of veterans' health care and benefits associated with exposure to environmental hazards, and medical and other research relating to exposure to environmental hazards, as authorized by section 324 of title 38, United States Code, and in addition to the amounts otherwise available for such purposes in the appropriations provided in this or prior Acts, including the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118-5), \$52,676,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2026 for "Compensation and Pensions", "Readjustment 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 2026, 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", "Readjustment 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 2025.

SEC. 207. Appropriations available in this title shall be available to pay prior year obligations 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 2026, 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 Ben-

efits 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 2026 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 2026 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, 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 \$134,342,000 for the Office of Resolution Management, \$7,607,000 for the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication, and \$7,586,000 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.

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 Veterans 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 2026 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 2026 for “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, “Medical Facilities”, “Construction, Minor Projects”, and “Information Technology Systems”, up to \$654,954,000, 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 A of Public Law 118-42, as continued by section 1101(a)(10) of division A of Public Law 119-4, is repealed.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 220. Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs which become available on October 1, 2026, for “Medical Services”, “Medical Community Care”, “Medical Support and Compliance”, and “Medical Facilities”, up to \$739,918,000, 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 Authorization 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. Amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2026, 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. 230. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may not reprogram funds among major construction projects or programs if such instance of reprogramming will exceed a cumulative \$7,000,000, unless such reprogramming is approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 231. (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(l) 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. 232. Effective during the period beginning on October 1, 2018, and ending on January 1, 2027, 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. 233. (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. 234. 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. 235. 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. 236. (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, 2026.

(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 A of Public Law 118-42.

SEC. 237. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal

year 2026 and 2027 for “Medical Services”, section 239 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 238. 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. 239. Of the funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2026 and fiscal year 2027 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. 240. 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. 241. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2026 and 2027, section 258 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 242. (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. 401 et seq.), 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. 401 et seq.).

(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. 243. 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. 244. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to the Veterans Health Administration may be used in fiscal year 2026 to convert any program which received specific purpose funds in fiscal year 2025 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. 245. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2026 and 2027, section 248 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 246. (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. 247. (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. 248. Amounts made available for the “Veterans Health Administration, Medical Community Care” account in this or any other Act for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 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. 249. 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. 250. Of the amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2026, 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”, “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Facilities”, and “Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund”, accounts, \$1,429,181,000 shall be made available for gender-specific care and programmatic efforts to deliver care for women veterans; \$697,800,000 shall be made available for suicide prevention outreach programs; \$3,500,000,000 shall be made available for the Caregivers program; \$42,000,000 shall be made available for the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; \$70,000,000 shall be made available for the Neurology Centers of Excellence; \$342,455,000 shall be made available for rural health care; and, \$3,459,121,000 shall be made available for veterans’ homelessness programs.

SEC. 251. Of the unobligated balances available in fiscal year 2026 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, \$900,000,000

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.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 252. Of the \$75,039,000,000 to become available on October 1, 2025, previously appropriated under the heading “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Services” in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (division A of Public Law 119–4), \$2,030,000,000 shall be transferred to “Veterans Health Administration—Medical Facilities”.

SEC. 253. 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 in this Act and any available unobligated balances from prior Acts, including the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118–5), for the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund: *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. 254. 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.

SEC. 255. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to close Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, domiciliarys, 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. 256. 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.

SEC. 257. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Veterans Affairs may be obligated, awarded, or expended to procure or purchase covered information technology equipment in cases where the manufacturer, bidder, or offeror, or any subsidiary or parent entity of the manufacturer, bidder, or offeror, of the equipment is an entity, or parent company of an entity listed on any of the following:

(1) the Department of Defense's Chinese Military Company List;

(2) the Department of the Treasury's Non-SDN Chinese Military Industrial Complex Companies List;

(3) the Department of Commerce's Denied Persons List, Entity List, or Military End User List, if the entity is—

(A) an agency or instrumentality of the People's Republic of China;

(B) an entity headquartered in the People's Republic of China; or

(C) directly or indirectly owned or controlled by an agency, instrumentality, or entity described in subparagraph (A) or (B); or

(4) the Department of Homeland Security's Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act Entity List.

(b) **APPLICABILITY TO THIRD PARTIES.**—The prohibition in subsection (a) also applies in cases in which the Secretary has contracted with a third party for the procurement, purchase, or expenditure of funds on any of the equipment and software described in such subsection.

(c) **DEFINITION.**—For purposes of this section, the term "covered information technology equipment" shall mean the following equipment used in an office environment: computers, printers, or interoperable videoconferencing equipment used in or by the Department of Veterans Affairs directly. "Covered information technology equipment" shall not refer to services that use such equipment, including cloud services.

SEC. 258. 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 and unless such awards or incentive fees are consistent with section 16.401(e)(2) of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

SEC. 259. The Department is directed to maintain staffing levels to facilitate the Department's own goals, including that benefits claims are adjudicated according to the 125 day goal, and that healthcare appointments and service are provided in the timeframes required by statute and regulation.

SEC. 260. The Department is directed to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of

Congress on the status of implementation of the provisions in Public Law 118-42 related to veterans in the Freely Associated States [FAS] in a way that is consistent with Congressional intent, including engagement with FAS governments, a projected timeline for veterans in the FAS to receive hospital care and medical services, and an estimate of the cost of implementation.

SEC. 261. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs in this Act may be used in a manner that would—

(1) interfere with the ability of a veteran to participate in a medicinal marijuana program approved by a State;

(2) deny any services from the Department to a veteran who is participating in such a program; or

(3) limit or interfere with the ability of a health care provider of the Department to make appropriate recommendations, fill out forms, or take steps to comply with such a program.

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, \$108,281,000 to remain available until expended.

FOREIGN CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments 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, \$49,000,000, of which \$3,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That \$4,256,000 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

CEMETERY 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, \$118,780,450, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028. 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.

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, \$79,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, of which \$2,072,000 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, \$27,000,000 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. (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. 407. (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. 408. 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. 409. 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. 410. 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. 411. (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. 412. 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.

SEC. 413. (a) Each department or agency funded in this or any other appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026 shall, no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on funds that are allotted and available for obligation as of the end of the reporting period and on obligations as of the end of the reporting period: *Provided*, That such report shall be delineated by: (1) program, project, and activity level; (2) public law making such funds available; and (3) period of availability: *Provided further*, That such reports shall be transmitted to the Committees monthly thereafter, on the fifteenth of each such month, during the period of availability of the relevant funds.

(b) The term “reporting period” as used in this section means the month that precedes the date on which the department or agency transmits the report to the Committees.

This division may be cited as the “Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026”.

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, namely:

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, \$51,792,000 of which not to exceed \$7,000,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary, of which \$650,000 shall be for the establishment of a Seafood Industry Liaison; 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 to improve the delivery of public health services and functions in American Indian communities focusing on indigenous food sovereignty; not to exceed \$6,000,000 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 \$21,706,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$20,000,000 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 \$4,000,000 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 \$6,000,000 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, \$2,450,000 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, \$16,000,000.

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 \$46,000,000 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): *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress in writing at least 30 days prior to discontinuing data collection programs and reports.

**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, \$1,826,778,000: *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 greenhouses 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: *Provided further*, That no later than 60 days from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both House of Congress that outlines the current staffing levels and hiring plans in fiscal year 2026 for each research unit.

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, \$42,650,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Congressionally Directed

Spending" in the report accompanying this 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, \$1,089,510,000, which shall be for the purposes, in the amounts, and for the periods of availability specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities" in the report accompanying this Act, of which \$559,760,000 shall remain available until expended and of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this heading, \$13,560,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Congressionally Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this Act, to remain available until expended, which shall not be subject to section 6(c) and section 6(d) of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390d): *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 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, in the amounts, and for the periods of availability specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities" in the report accompanying this Act, of which \$32,500,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, 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, in the amounts, and for the periods of availability specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities" in the report accompanying this Act, of which \$8,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, 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), \$1,167,534,000 which shall be for the purposes, in the amounts, and for the periods of availability specified in the table titled "Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service" in the report accompanying this Act, of which \$601,551,000 shall remain available until expended, of which \$11,384,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Congressional Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this Act, to remain available until expended, and of which \$8,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, 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 the Secretary must notify the Committees on Appropriations about any transfer of funds in the preceding proviso within 15 days after such transfer being made: *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 2026, 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, improvement, 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, which shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the table titled "Agricultural Marketing Service—Marketing Services" in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That amounts made available for Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives to carry out section 12513 of Public Law 115-334 (7 U.S.C. 1632d) shall remain available until expended and the Secretary shall take measures to ensure an equal distribution of funds between the three regional innovation initiatives that were first established using funds made available under this heading in Public Law 116-6: *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 \$23,880,000 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 serv-

ices: *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), \$1,226,000,000; 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 2026 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, \$238,500,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall be for the implementation of section 773 of Public Law 117-328: *Provided*, That \$70,740,000 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, 2027: *Provided*, That the agency shall submit a report by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026 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 for any department or agency in this or any other appropriations Acts, including prior year Acts, 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 ownership (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.), and relending program (7 U.S.C. 1936c), 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; \$2,000,000,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and \$1,633,000,000 for direct operating loans; emergency loans, \$14,388,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$20,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, \$150,000,000; 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: \$1,000,000 for emergency loans, to remain available until expended; \$39,370,000 for farm ownership direct loans, and \$84,000 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 paid to 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, conservation, and emergency direct loans and loan guarantees 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 temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$895,754,000, which shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the table titled “Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations” in the report accompanying this Act, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *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.

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, \$52,360,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$32,360,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled “Congressionally Directed Spending” in the report accompanying this 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, \$10,000,000 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. 7141) 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 or the transfer or cancellation of any previously obligated Commodity Credit Corporation funds: *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, commitment, transfer, or cancellation 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, 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: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out a pilot program that assists rural hospitals to improve long-term operations and financial health by providing technical assistance through analysis of current hospital management practices.

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 au-

thorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$1,000,000,000 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 shall be for section 502 unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$25,000,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$50,000,000 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; \$5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans; and \$15,000,000 for section 514 direct farm labor housing loans.

For the cost of direct loans, guaranteed loans, and grants, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 direct loans, \$130,600,000, of which \$32,650,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027; Single Family Housing Relending demonstration program for Native American Tribes, \$2,469,000; section 504 housing repair loans, \$4,333,000; repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, \$15,130,000, to remain available until expended; section 523 self-help housing land development loans, \$657,000; section 524 site development loans, \$502,000; section 514 farm labor housing loans, \$4,761,000, to remain available until expended; and farm labor housing grants, as authorized by section 516 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484, 1486), \$7,500,000, 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, 2026: *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 the owner's initial equity contributions, as defined by the Secretary, invested in the transaction; 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 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, \$1,715,000,000, 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 5,000 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 2026 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 2026 for a project that the Secretary determines no longer needs rental assistance and use such recaptured funds for current needs: *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 information technology improvements under this heading.

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, and is not receiving stand-alone section 521 rental assistance: *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 authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$1,250,000,000 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, \$217,436,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$199,436,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts specified in the table titled "Congressionally Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this Act: *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, loan guarantees and or grants 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: *Provided further*, That amounts specified in the tables titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statements accompanying prior year Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts, as described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of such Acts, may not be made available pursuant to the fifth proviso until at least three fiscal years after the fiscal year in which such funds were originally made available: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be made available pursuant to the preceding proviso without prior notification and approval of the Committees of Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That \$13,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which \$8,000,000 shall be for grants to tribal colleges as authorized by section 306(a)(25) 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 gross obligations for the principal amount of guaranteed loans as authorized by

section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)), \$1,750,000,000.

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, \$55,575,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$15,575,000 shall be for business and industry guaranteed loans: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$26,000,000 shall be for rural business development grants as authorized by section 310B(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which 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: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$10,000,000 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 \$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), \$13,000,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$2,954,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which \$295,000 shall be available through June 30, 2026, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which \$591,000 shall be available through June 30, 2026, 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), \$24,800,000, of which \$3,500,000 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 \$12,500,000, 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 \$1,000,000, 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), \$19,515,000.

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), \$100,000,000.

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: \$1,015,000,000 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, \$443,776,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$51,476,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for direct loans, of which no less than \$3,876,000 shall be available for water and waste direct one percent loans for distressed communities as the Secretary deems appropriate: *Provided further*, That \$1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That \$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 \$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 Department 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 \$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 \$9,000,000 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 \$23,900,000 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 \$4,000,000 of the amounts made available under this heading shall be for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That \$240,400,000 of the amounts made available under this heading shall be for grants pursuant to section 306(a)(2)(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *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 if any funds made available for the direct loan subsidy costs under this heading remain unobligated after July 31, 2026, such unobligated balances may be used for grant programs funded under this heading: *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, loan guarantees and or grants under this heading in this fiscal year: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be made available pursuant to the two pre-

ceding provisos 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 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, \$2,667,000,000; 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; for cost-of-money rural telecommunications loans made pursuant to section 305(d)(2) of that Act, \$350,000,000; and for guaranteed rural telecommunications loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, \$200,000,000: *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, \$3,570,000.

In addition, \$4,200,000 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., \$40,610,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$610,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Congressionally Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this 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.), \$35,000,000, to remain available until expended: *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 predevelopment 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; \$36,285,902,000 to remain available through September 30, 2027, 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, \$21,918,000 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 Rich-

ard 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 2026 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, \$1,500,000 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 2026” and inserting “2010 through 2027”: *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 2025” and inserting “For fiscal year 2026”: *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 2025” and inserting “For fiscal year 2026”.

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), \$8,200,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027: *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, including investments to develop strategies to improve timely program data collection and reporting: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to award grants and cooperative agreements to State agencies or other entities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use funds made available under this heading to maintain the amount for the cash-value voucher for women and children participants at 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.), \$118,139,341,000, of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, 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, 2027, 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, 2027: *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, 2027: *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 and commodity assistance, \$516,070,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, of which \$425,000,000 shall be for 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), \$80,000,000 shall be for the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983, \$1,070,000 shall be for 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 \$10,000,000 shall be for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966: *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 2026 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, 2027: *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, 2027, 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 of the funds made available under this heading, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Cochran Fellowship Program, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 3293, \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 3319j, and up to \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service.

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, \$1,500,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$1,000,000, shall be for the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Secretary of State and heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies as applicable, to conduct an interagency review and, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, provide a detailed report outlining the process and agency needs to support a transfer of the Food for Peace program from the U.S. Agency for International Development to the Foreign Agricultural Service within the Department of Agriculture: *Provided further*, That such report shall include the requirements outlined in the section entitled "Food for Peace Interagency Review and Report" in the report accompanying this Act and shall also address any other needs that the Department of Agriculture believes will be required to support successful implementation of such program transfer.

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; 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; \$7,015,038,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,543,226,000 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; \$445,808,000 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; \$665,438,000 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; \$55,731,000 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; \$34,142,000 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; \$26,503,000 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 not-

withstanding 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 2026 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 2026, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2026 but credited for fiscal year 2026, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2026 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2026 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2027, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2027 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2026 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) \$1,171,319,000 shall be for the Human Foods Program and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Human Foods Program, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist, of which no less than \$15,000,000 shall be used for inspections of foreign seafood manufacturers and field examinations of imported seafood; (2) \$2,497,463,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Center, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist, of which no less than \$10,000,000 shall be for pilots to increase unannounced foreign inspections and shall remain available until expended; (3) \$625,756,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Center, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist; (4) \$286,442,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Center, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist; (5) \$863,358,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Center, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist; (6) \$77,740,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$689,258,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities, including inspections, investigations, and import operations, conducted by the Center, the Office of Inspections and Investigations, or the Office of the Chief Scientist; (8) \$434,455,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$55,112,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) \$219,639,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) \$369,267,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of the Chief Scientist, the Office of the Chief Medical Officer, 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.

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$106,500,000 (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 2026 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 in-

cluding, 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, 2027, 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 pro-

gram 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 Nutrition 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, 2026, such unobligated balances shall carryover into fiscal year 2027 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 2026 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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (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 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 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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services 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 or the Secretary of Health and Human Services 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, 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, 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, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed obligation plan delineated by program, project, and activity, as defined in the report accompanying this Act, for all amounts made available by this Act and prior appropriations Acts that remain available for obligation, including appropriated user fees and loan authorizations: *Provided*, That such obligation plan shall include breakdowns of estimated obligations for each such program, project, or activity by fiscal quarter, source appropriation, and the number of full-time equivalent positions supported: *Provided further*, That such obligation plan shall serve as the baseline for reprogramming notifications for the purposes of section 716 of this 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. 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 (Public 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. 730. (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. 731. (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. 732. 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. 733. 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 Economic Development Loans 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 Economic Research Service, 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. 734. 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. 735. 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. 736. For school years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to restrict or limit the substitution of any vegetable subgroup for fruits under the school breakfast program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

SEC. 737. 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. 738. 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. 739. 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)).

SEC. 740. There is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, 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 property preservation through 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: *Provided*, That such funds may also be used for technical assistance for non-profit organizations, public housing authorities, and private owners for the decoupling of rental assistance.

SEC. 741. 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. 742. 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. 743. For school year 2025–2026, only a school food authority that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account as of June 30, 2025, 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. 744. 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. 745. 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. 746. 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. 747. 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. 748. 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. 749. 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, 2026, 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. 750. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2026, 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. 751. (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. 752. 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 guidelines or regulations applicable to food manufacturers of low risk ready-to-eat (RTE) foods for *Listeria monocytogenes* (Lm) until the FDA considers the available new science in developing guidance regarding Lm in low-risk foods, meaning foods that do not support the growth of Lm.

SEC. 753. There is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, 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. 754. For an additional amount for the Office of the Secretary, \$700,000, for the Office of Tribal Relations to cover costs incurred for the slaughtering, processing, and voluntary meat inspection fees, notwithstanding the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1622 et seq.) and 9 CFR part 352, for bison owned by Tribal governments (as defined by the List Act of 1994 (25 U.S.C. 5131)), Tribal entities (including Tribal organizations and corporations), and Tribal members that slaughter and process bison at establishments that receive USDA voluntary inspection or state inspection.

SEC. 755. 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 or plant health emergency 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(b)(1) and (2) 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.

SEC. 756. 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. 757. 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. 758. 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. 759. 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 Sec-

retary of Agriculture shall only 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. 760. (a) Section 313B(a) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940c-2(a)), shall be applied for fiscal year 2026 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)) and shall use \$9,953,000 of the funds available to carry out this section in fiscal year 2026 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)).”

(b) Section 780 of division B of Public Law 118-42 and such section as continued in effect as an authority and condition under section 1101(a)(1) of Public Law 119-4 shall no longer apply.

SEC. 761. 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. 762. 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. 763. 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. 764. 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. 765. Section 363 of the Multifamily Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1981 (12 U.S.C. 3702) is amended at paragraph (2)—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and”;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) section 514 or 515 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484, 1485).”

SEC. 766. The last proviso in the second paragraph under the heading "Rural Community Facilities Program Account" in division B of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) shall be amended to read as follows: "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 and in section 778(1).".

SEC. 767. 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. 768. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for the "National Institute of Food and Agriculture—Research and Education Activities", \$22,000,000 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. 769. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available for "Food For Peace Title II Grants", \$200,000,000 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. 770. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available under the heading "Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program" 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.), \$20,000,000 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. 771. Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations made available in the "Working Capital Fund", \$78,000,000 are hereby 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.

SEC. 772. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture in this or any other Act may be used to close or consolidate the resources or locations of any existing Agricultural Research Service laboratories and facilities without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

SEC. 773. (a) Of the amounts made available in this Act under the heading "Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration—Salaries and Expenses" that are derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, not less than \$200,000,000 shall be used by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs for enforcement activities related to e-cigarettes, vapes, and other electronic nicotine delivery

systems (in this section referred to as "ENDS"), including activities under section 801(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 381(a)): *Provided*, That not less than \$2,000,000 of such amount shall be used to continue the activities of the Federal multi-agency task force led by the Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, and the FDA to further work to bring all available criminal and civil tools to bear against the illegal manufacture, importation, distribution, and sale of e-cigarettes, vapes, and other ENDS products from the Republic of China and other foreign countries.

(b) Not later than 365 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall update the FDA document titled "Guidance for Industry on its Enforcement Priorities," published in January 2020 and updated in April 2020, to expand FDA's prioritized enforcement to flavored disposable ENDS products in addition to cartridge-based products and to define the term "disposable ENDS product."

(c) The Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall submit a semi-annual written report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the progress that the Center for Tobacco Products is making in removing all illegal nicotine products from the market: *Provided*, That the initial report shall be submitted not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) Section 801(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 381(a)) is amended by striking "drug or device" each place it appears in the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth sentences and inserting "drug, device, or tobacco product".

SEC. 774. (a) Fees derived from amounts assessed and collected for fiscal year 2026, credited under the heading "Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration—Salaries and Expenses", and made available for expenditure under such heading must comply with each provision contained in current user fee authorizations, appropriations Acts, and commitment letters, as transmitted from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives regarding reauthorization of such current user fee authorizations: *Provided*, That the term current user fee authorizations means those user fees authorized at 21 U.S.C. 379h, 21 U.S.C. 379j, 21 U.S.C. 379j-42, 21 U.S.C. 379j-52, 21 U.S.C. 379j-12, 21 U.S.C. 379j-21, 21 U.S.C. 387s, 42 U.S.C. 263b, 21 U.S.C. 381, 21 U.S.C. 360n and 360ff, 21 U.S.C. 379-j31, 21 U.S.C. 379j-62, 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), 21 U.S.C. 360eee-3(c)(1), 21 U.S.C. 384d(c)(8), 21 U.S.C. 360bbb-4a, and 21 U.S.C. 379j-72.

(b)(1) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Food and Drug Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report that includes obligation and outlay estimates and full-time equivalent (FTE) personnel staffing estimates for fiscal year 2026 for each Food and Drug Administration program that uses both general fund appropriations and funds derived from user fees: *Provided*, That such report shall include a table with separate columns for general fund appropriations and funds derived from user fees for such obligations, outlays and FTE personnel staffing: *Provided further*, That such report shall be certified by the Ombudsman of the Food and Drug Administration.

(2) The report in paragraph (1) shall be updated, certified by the Ombudsman of the Food and Drug Administration, and sub-

mitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after each fiscal quarter until all such funds are expended: *Provided*, That a plan for such ongoing quarterly reporting shall be submitted with the report required by subsection (b)(1).

(c) Of the amounts provided in this Act in paragraph (10) under the heading "Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration—Salaries and Expenses" and made available by the Food and Drug Administration for Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, 50 percent shall be withheld from obligation until the reporting requirements outlined in subsection (b) are met: *Provided*, That an additional 25 percent of the amounts withheld from obligation shall be available when the report required by subsection (b)(1) is submitted and the remaining 25 percent shall be available when the plan for satisfying the ongoing quarterly reporting requirements outlined in the proviso in subsection (b)(2) is submitted.

SEC. 775. (a) Section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636i) is amended by striking "2025" and inserting "2026".

(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 "2025" and inserting "2026".

SEC. 776. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by FDA to develop, issue, promote, or advance any new guidelines or regulations applicable to food manufacturers for population-wide sodium reduction actions until the publication of the 2025-26 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) What We Eat In America survey, which will begin to reflect the impact on population intake of Phase 1 reduction.

SEC. 777. The Secretary of Agriculture shall provide written notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no fewer than 3 business days in advance of termination of any grant, cooperative agreement, or contract award totaling \$1,000,000 or more issued from funds made available in this Act or any previous Act: *Provided*, That such notification 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 detailed justification for the termination.

SEC. 778. There is hereby appropriated \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a new pilot program to support on-the-ground local Energy Circuit Riders who provide professional support to rural communities for the purpose of undertaking projects that save energy and reduce emissions: *Provided*, That for the purpose of the new pilot program, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Rural Development, shall have the authority to provide amounts, including in the form of grants, cooperative agreements, and other financial assistance, to States, Indian Tribes, cooperative extension services, institutions of higher education, cooperatives and cooperative organizations, regional planning commissions or other public entities serving two or more rural areas: *Provided further*, That the period of performance under this pilot program shall be more than 3 but not more than 6 years: *Provided further*, That the Federal share shall not be more than 75 percent: *Provided further*, That an eligible entity using funds provided under the pilot program shall offer assistance with energy planning,

energy audits, applicable Federal funding opportunities, tax incentives, project financing, grant writing, community-based capacity building, or applicable State, local, and utility-based incentives, including, as appropriate, coordinating with relevant State energy offices.

SEC. 779. For purposes of applying the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), “Pacific Snapper” is an acceptable market name for each of the following food fishes: *Sebastes alutus*, *Sebastes borealis*, *Sebastes ciliatus*, *Sebastes crameri*, *Sebastes entomelas*, *Sebastes flavidus*, *Sebastes goodei*, *Sebastes levis*, *Sebastes melanops*, *Sebastes miniatus*, *Sebastes ovalis*, *Sebastes paucispinis*, *Sebastes pinniger*, *Sebastes proriger*, *Sebastes reedi*, *Sebastes ruberrimus*, *Sebastes rufus*, and *Sebastes serranoides*.

SEC. 780. For purposes of applying the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), Hawaii grown or produced coffee shall contain at least 51 percent of coffee grown in Kona, Kau, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, or other areas of the State of Hawaii. Based on the region it is produced or grown, the common or usual names shall be Kona Coffee, Kau Coffee, Maui Coffee, Oahu Coffee, Kauai Coffee, or Hawaii Coffee.

SEC. 781. (a) No sooner than 1 year after the enactment of this Act, section 297A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1639o) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (6) as paragraphs (4) through (8), respectively; and—

(2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) HEMP.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘hemp’ means the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a total tetrahydrocannabinol concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of not more than 0.3 percent in the plant on a dry weight basis.

“(B) INCLUSION.—Such term includes industrial hemp.

“(C) EXCLUSIONS.—Such term does not include—

“(i) any viable seeds from a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant that exceeds a total tetrahydrocannabinol concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of 0.3 percent in the plant on a dry weight basis; or

“(ii) any hemp-derived cannabinoid products containing—

“(I) cannabinoids that are not capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant;

“(II) cannabinoids that—

“(aa) are capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant; and

“(bb) were synthesized or manufactured outside the plant; or

“(III) quantifiable amounts based on substance, form, manufacture, or article (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture) of—

“(aa) tetrahydrocannabinol (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid); or

“(bb) any other cannabinoids that have similar effects (or are marketed to have similar effects) on humans or animals as tetrahydrocannabinol (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture).

“(2) INDUSTRIAL HEMP.—The term ‘industrial hemp’ means hemp—

“(A) grown for the use of the stalk of the plant, fiber produced from such a stalk, or any other non-cannabinoid derivative, mix-

ture, preparation, or manufacture of such a stalk;

“(B) grown for the use of the whole grain, oil, cake, nut, hull, or any other noncannabinoid compound, derivative, mixture, preparation, or manufacture of the seeds of such plant;

“(C) grown for purposes of producing microgreens or other edible hemp leaf products intended for human consumption that are harvested from an immature hemp plant that is grown from seeds that do not exceed the threshold for total tetrahydrocannabinol concentration specified in paragraph (1)(C)(i);

“(D) that is a plant that does not enter the stream of commerce and is intended to support hemp research at an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) or an independent research institute; or

“(E) grown for the use of a viable seed of the plant produced solely for the production or manufacture of any material described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(3) HEMP-DERIVED CANNABINOID PRODUCT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘hemp-derived cannabinoid product’ means any intermediate or final product derived from hemp (other than industrial hemp), that—

“(i) contains cannabinoids in any form; and

“(ii) is intended for human or animal use through any means of application or administration, such as inhalation, ingestion, or topical application.

“(B) EXCLUSION.—Such term does not include a drug that is the subject of an application approved under subsection (c) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355).”

(b) The Commissioner of Food and Drugs and the Secretary of Agriculture shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 180 days of enactment of this Act on implementation of this section including the projected impacts to the established cannabinoid marketplace, engagement with industry stakeholders, and shall include information about uniform packaging, labeling, testing, and adverse event reporting requirements.

SEC. 782. None of the funds made available for any department or agency in this or any other appropriations Acts, including prior year Acts, shall be used to close Natural Resources Conservation Service or Rural Development mission area field offices or to permanently relocate any field-based employees of those agencies 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.

This division may be cited as the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026”.

DIVISION C—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for international trade activities of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, to carry out ac-

tivities 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 \$65,000 per vehicle; not to exceed \$350,000 for purchase of armored vehicles without regard to the general purchase price limitations; obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles; and rental of tie lines, \$605,000,000, of which \$102,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, 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.

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, \$211,000,000, of which \$76,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, 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 economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, including provision of assistance under section 207(b) of such Act, for trade adjustment assistance, and for programs authorized by the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, as amended, \$360,000,000 to remain available until expended, which shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the table titled "Economic Development Assistance Programs" in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may be used to implement prize competitions as authorized by section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, \$66,000,000: *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, \$55,000,000.

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, \$122,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, \$1,191,849,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *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), \$55,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *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.

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
OFFICE

SALARIES 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, \$4,996,100,000, 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 2026, so as to result in a fiscal year 2026 appropriation from the general fund estimated at \$0: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2026, should the total amount of such offsetting collections be less than \$4,996,100,000, this amount shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That any amount received in excess of \$4,996,100,000 in fiscal year 2026 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 2027 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 2026 or fiscal year 2027: *Provided further*, That from amounts provided herein, not to exceed \$13,500 shall be made available in fiscal year 2026 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2026 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), \$1,006,628,000, 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, \$149,469,000 shall be made available for the NIST—STRS projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Congressionally Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this 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: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall renew all cooperative agreements authorized by section 278k of title 15, United States Code, for eligible entities in each State and Puerto Rico.

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), \$385,897,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$257,897,000 shall be made available for the NIST—Construction projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Congressionally Directed Spending” in the report accompanying this 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 2027 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, \$4,477,642,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, 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, \$399,644,000 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 of the \$4,905,286,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$4,477,642,000 is appropriated from the general fund, \$399,644,000 is provided by transfer, and \$28,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obliga-

tions: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$4,850,644,000 shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the tables under this heading in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$54,642,000 shall be made available for the NOAA—ORF projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Congressionally Directed Spending” in the report accompanying this 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 \$71,299,000 shall be for payment to the “Department of Commerce Working Capital Fund”: *Provided further*, That 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

For procurement, acquisition and construction of capital assets, including alteration and modification costs, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, \$1,610,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, except that funds provided for acquisition and construction of satellites, vessels, aircraft, and construction of facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the \$1,623,000,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, \$1,610,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund and \$13,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That the \$1,623,000,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the tables under this heading in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided further*, That 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 2027 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, 2027: *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 authorized 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 2026, 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 \$9,000 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 3 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 6 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 30 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 2026: *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 lim-

its 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, 2027, 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 30 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

SEC. 113. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in consultation with the employees of the National Weather Service and non-gov-

ernmental 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.

SEC. 114. The National Weather Service shall maintain staffing levels by hiring, retaining, and rehiring after separations in order to fulfill the mission required under 15 U.S.C. 313 to protect life and property to the maximum extent possible.

This title may be cited as the “Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 2026”.

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 not to exceed \$4,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027, and of which not to exceed \$4,000,000 for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities shall remain available until expended.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for information sharing technology, including planning, development, deployment and departmental direction, \$50,000,000, 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, \$804,000,000, of which \$10,000,000 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 \$29,000,000 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, 2030, 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, 2027.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Parole Commission as authorized, \$13,500,000: *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, \$1,028,000,000, 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 \$9,000 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed \$9,000 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 authorized 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, \$245,000,000, 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, fees col-

lected in fiscal year 2026 for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a) 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 (1) as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2026 and (2) to the extent that any remaining general fund appropriations can be derived from amounts credited to this account as offsetting collections in previous fiscal years that are not otherwise appropriated, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2026 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 in previous fiscal years that were unavailable for obligation as of September 30, 2025, shall become available for obligation except as provided in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That any premerger notification filing fees received in excess of \$245,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Attorney General 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.

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, \$220,000,000, 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 2026, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, exceed \$220,000,000, 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 general fund shall be reduced (1) as such fees are received during fiscal year 2026, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, (estimated at \$205,000,000) 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 2026 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, \$320,000,000, 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, \$22,000,000: *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, \$1,712,000,000, 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.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction in space that is controlled, occupied, or utilized by the United States Marshals Service for prisoner holding and related support, \$12,000,000, 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, \$2,236,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, 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 Air 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, \$122,000,000, 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, \$537,000,000, 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 \$284,000 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; \$15,000,000, 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, 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: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any prior Department of Justice Appropriations Act shall be available to restart the illicit crop imagery program.

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 \$36,000 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 correctional 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 \$150,000,000 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, shall be available for its administrative expenses, and for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, to be computed on an accrual basis to be determined in accordance with the corporation's current prescribed accounting system, and such amounts shall be exclusive of depreciation, payment of claims, and expenditures which such accounting system requires to be capitalized or charged to cost of commodities acquired or produced, including selling and shipping expenses, and expenses in connection with acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, improvement, protection, or disposition of facilities and other property belonging to the corporation or in which it has an interest.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
ACTIVITIES
OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND
PROSECUTION PROGRAMS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) (“the 1968 Act”); title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (commonly known as the “Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968”) (Public Law 90-284, as amended) (“the Indian Civil Rights Act”); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322, as amended) (34 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) (“the 1994 Act”); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647) (“the 1990 Act”); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-21); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (34 U.S.C. 11101 et seq.) (“the 1974 Act”); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386, as amended) (“the 2000 Act”); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-405, as amended) (“the 2004 Act”); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162, as amended) (“the 2005 Act”); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) (“the 2013 Act”); the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-22) (“the 2015 Act”); the Abolish Human Trafficking Act (Public Law 115-392); and the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (division W of Public Law 117-103) (“the 2022 Act”); and for related victims services, \$720,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$80,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from amounts available for obligation in this Act from the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473 (34 U.S.C. 20101), notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act of 1984, and merged with the amounts otherwise made available under this heading *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 5 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided—

(1) \$255,000,000 is for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act, and any applicable increases for the amount of such grants, as authorized by section 5903 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023: *Provided*, That \$10,000,000 shall be for any such increases under such section 5903, which shall apply to fiscal year 2026 grants funded by amounts provided in this paragraph;

(2) \$51,000,000 is for transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault as authorized by section 40299 of the 1994 Act;

(3) \$2,500,000 is for the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics for research, evaluation, and statistics of violence against women and related issues addressed by grant programs of the Office on Violence Against Women, which shall be transferred to “Research, Evaluation and Statistics” for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(4) \$17,000,000 is for a grant program to provide services to advocate for and respond to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; assistance to children and youth exposed to such

violence; assistance to middle and high school students through education and other services related to such violence, and programs to engage men and youth in preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by sections 41201, 41204, 41303, and 41305 of the 1994 Act, prior to its amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the total amount available for this grant program shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the 1968 Act: *Provided further*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;

(5) \$60,500,000 is for grants to improve the criminal justice response as authorized by part U of title I of the 1968 Act, of which up to \$4,000,000 is for a homicide reduction initiative; and up to \$2,000,000 is for a domestic violence lethality reduction initiative;

(6) \$79,500,000 is for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601 of the 1994 Act;

(7) \$51,000,000 is for rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement assistance grants, as authorized by section 40295 of the 1994 Act;

(8) \$25,000,000 is for grants to reduce violent crimes against women on campus, as authorized by section 304 of the 2005 Act, of which \$12,500,000 is for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal colleges and universities;

(9) \$56,000,000 is for legal assistance for victims, as authorized by section 1201 of the 2000 Act;

(10) \$9,000,000 is for enhanced training and services to end violence against and abuse of women in later life, as authorized by section 40801 of the 1994 Act;

(11) \$22,000,000 is for grants to support families in the justice system, as authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act and section 41002 of the 1994 Act, prior to their amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program;

(12) \$12,000,000 is for education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2000 Act;

(13) \$1,000,000 is for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic violence, as authorized by section 41501 of the 1994 Act;

(14) \$1,000,000 is for analysis and research on violence against Indian women, including as authorized by section 904 of the 2005 Act: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to “Research, Evaluation and Statistics” for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(15) \$500,000 is for a national clearinghouse that provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native women;

(16) \$12,000,000 is for programs to assist Tribal Governments in exercising special Tribal criminal jurisdiction, as authorized by section 204 of the Indian Civil Rights Act: *Provided*, That the grant conditions in section 40002(b) of the 1994 Act shall apply to grants made;

(17) \$1,500,000 is for the purposes authorized under the 2015 Act;

(18) \$15,000,000 is for a grant program to support restorative justice responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including evaluations of those responses;

(19) \$11,000,000 is for culturally specific services for victims, as authorized by section 121 of the 2005 Act;

(20) \$3,000,000 is for an initiative to support cross-designation of tribal prosecutors as Tribal Special Assistant United States Attorneys: *Provided*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this initiative;

(21) \$1,000,000 is for grants to support victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including through the provision of technical assistance, as authorized by section 206 of the 2022 Act: *Provided*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;

(22) \$2,000,000 is for a National Deaf Services Line to provide services to Deaf victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking: *Provided*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this service line;

(23) \$5,000,000 is for grants for outreach and services to underserved populations, as authorized by section 120 of the 2005 Act;

(24) \$4,000,000 is for an initiative to provide financial assistance to victims, including evaluation of the effectiveness of funded projects: *Provided*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this initiative;

(25) \$5,000,000 is for trauma-informed, victim-centered training for law enforcement, and related research and evaluation activities, as authorized by section 41701 of the 1994 Act;

(26) \$12,000,000 is for grants to support access to sexual assault nurse examinations, as authorized by section 304 of title III of the 2004 Act: *Provided*, That the grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program; and

(27) \$5,500,000 is for local law enforcement grants for prevention, enforcement, and prosecution of cybercrimes against individuals, as authorized by section 1401 of the 2022 Act, and for a National Resource Center on Cybercrimes Against Individuals, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2022 Act: *Provided*, That the grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this paragraph.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (“title I of the 1968 Act”) (Public Law 90-351); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322) (“the 1994 Act”); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (“the 1974 Act”) (Public Law 93-415); the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11291 et seq.); the PROTECT Act (Public Law 108-21); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-405); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) (“the 2005 Act”); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (title II of Public Law 101-647); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-199); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248) (“the Adam Walsh Act”); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-401); subtitle C of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) (“the 2002 Act”); the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-79) (“PREA”); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-180); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) (“the 2013 Act”); the Comprehensive Adjudication and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law

114-198); the First Step Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391); and other programs, \$60,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) \$27,000,000 is for criminal justice statistics programs and other activities as authorized by part C of title I of the 1968 Act; and

(2) \$33,000,000 is for research, development, and evaluation programs, and other activities as authorized by part B of title I of the 1968 Act and subtitle C of title II of the 2002 Act, and for activities authorized by or consistent with the First Step Act of 2018.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322) (“the 1994 Act”); title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-351, as amended) (“the 1968 Act”); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-405); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (title II of Public Law 101-647) (“the 1990 Act”); the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-164) (“the TVPRA of 2005”); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) (“the 2005 Act”); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248) (“the Adam Walsh Act”); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386) (“the Victims of Trafficking Act”); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-180); subtitle C of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) (“the 2002 Act”); the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-79) (“PREA”); the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-12); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-199); the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-403) (“the PRO-IP Act”); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473) (“the 1984 Act”); the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-416); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) (“the 2013 Act”); the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-198) (“CARA”); the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-324); Kevin and Avonte’s Law (division Q of Public Law 115-141) (“Kevin and Avonte’s Law”); the Keep Young Athletes Safe Act of 2018 (title III of division S of Public Law 115-141) (“the Keep Young Athletes Safe Act”); the STOP School Violence Act of 2018 (title V of division S of Public Law 115-141) (“the STOP School Violence Act”); the Fix NICS Act of 2018 (title VI of division S of Public Law 115-141); the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-185); the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (Public Law 115-271); the Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391); the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (Public Law 111-84); title II of Kristen’s Act (title II of Public Law 106-468, as amended); the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-401); the Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-277); the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act (34 U.S.C. 30507); the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (division W of Public Law 117-103) (“the 2022 Act”); the Daniel Andert Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-263); and other programs, \$1,878,146,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) \$569,146,000 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program as authorized by subpart 1 of part E of title I of the 1968 Act (except that section 1001(c), and the special rules for Puerto Rico under section 505(g), of title I of the 1968 Act shall not apply for purposes of this Act), of which, notwithstanding such subpart 1—

(A) \$13,000,000 is for an Officer Robert Wilson III memorial initiative on Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability (VALOR);

(B) \$3,000,000 is for the operation, maintenance, and expansion of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System;

(C) \$8,000,000 is for a grant program for State and local law enforcement to provide officer training on responding to individuals with mental illness or disabilities, including for purposes described in the Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-325);

(D) \$3,000,000 is for a student loan repayment assistance program pursuant to part JJ of title I of the 1968 Act, as amended;

(E) \$15,500,000 is for prison rape prevention and prosecution grants to States and units of local government, and other programs, as authorized by PREA: *Provided*, That for grants requested or issued this fiscal year, section 8(e)(2)(D)(iii)(I) of PREA shall be applied by striking “during the 2-year period beginning 6 years after December 16, 2016”;

(F) \$3,000,000 is for the Missing Americans Alert Program (title XXIV of the 1994 Act), as amended by Kevin and Avonte’s Law;

(G) \$19,000,000 is for grants authorized under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-185);

(H) \$12,000,000 is for the Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program, as authorized by section 426 of Public Law 108-405, and for grants for wrongful conviction review;

(I) \$3,000,000 is for a national center on restorative justice;

(J) \$1,000,000 is for the purposes of the Ashanti Alert Communications Network as authorized by title II of Kristen’s Act, as amended by the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-401), and for related planning, implementation and other support activities;

(K) \$3,500,000 is for a grant program to replicate and support family-based alternative sentencing programs;

(L) \$7,000,000 is for a rural violent crime initiative, including assistance for law enforcement;

(M) \$5,000,000 is for grants authorized under the Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-277);

(N) \$1,500,000 is for grants to accredited institutions of higher education to support forensic ballistics programs;

(O) \$3,000,000 is for the purposes authorized under section 1506 of the 2022 Act; and

(P) \$152,146,000 is for discretionary grants to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation), which shall be made available for the OJP—Byrne projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled “Congressionally Directed Spending” in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That such amounts may not be transferred for any other purpose;

(2) \$88,000,000 for victim services programs for victims of trafficking, as authorized by section 107(b)(2) of the Victims of Trafficking Act, by the TVPRA of 2005, or by the 2013 Act, and related activities such as investigations and prosecutions;

(3) \$8,000,000 for a grant program to prevent and address economic, high technology, white collar, and Internet crime, including

as authorized by section 401 of the PRO-IP Act, of which not less than \$2,500,000 is for intellectual property enforcement grants including as authorized by section 401, and \$2,000,000 is for grants to develop databases on Internet of Things device capabilities and to build and execute training modules for law enforcement;

(4) \$19,000,000 for sex offender management assistance, as authorized by the Adam Walsh Act, and related activities;

(5) \$30,000,000 for the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, as authorized by section 2501 of title I of the 1968 Act: *Provided*, That \$1,500,000 shall be transferred directly to the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Office of Law Enforcement Standards for research, testing, and evaluation programs;

(6) \$1,000,000 for the National Sex Offender Public Website;

(7) \$87,000,000 for grants to States to upgrade criminal and mental health records for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, of which no less than \$25,000,000 shall be for grants made under the authorities of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-180) and Fix NICS Act of 2018;

(8) \$34,000,000 for Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grants under part BB of title I of the 1968 Act;

(9) \$148,000,000 for DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, of which—

(A) \$120,000,000 is for the purposes authorized under section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-546) (the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program): *Provided*, That up to 4 percent of funds made available under this paragraph may be used for the purposes described in the DNA Training and Education for Law Enforcement, Correctional Personnel, and Court Officers program (Public Law 108-405, section 303);

(B) \$10,000,000 is for other local, State, and Federal forensic activities;

(C) \$14,000,000 is for the purposes described in the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grant Program (Public Law 108-405, section 412); and

(D) \$4,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, including as authorized by section 304 of Public Law 108-405;

(10) \$51,500,000 for community-based grant programs to improve the response to sexual assault including assistance for investigation and prosecution of related cold cases;

(11) \$14,000,000 for the court-appointed special advocate program, as authorized by section 217 of the 1990 Act;

(12) \$48,000,000 for assistance to Indian Tribes;

(13) \$116,000,000 for offender reentry programs and research, as authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-199) and by the Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-391), without regard to the time limitations specified at section 6(1) of such Act, of which not to exceed—

(A) \$8,000,000 is for a program to improve State, local, and Tribal probation or parole supervision efforts and strategies;

(B) \$5,000,000 is for children of incarcerated parents demonstration programs to enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for incarcerated parents as a reentry or recidivism reduction strategy;

(C) \$5,000,000 is for additional replication sites employing the Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement model implementing swift and certain sanctions in probation, of which no less than \$500,000 shall be used for a project that provides training, technical assistance, and best practices; and

(D) \$10,000,000 is for a grant program for crisis stabilization and community reentry,

as authorized by the Crisis Stabilization and Community Reentry Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-281);

Provided, That up to \$7,500,000 of funds made available in this paragraph may be used for performance-based awards for Pay for Success projects, of which up to \$5,000,000 shall be for Pay for Success programs implementing the Permanent Supportive Housing Model and reentry housing;

(14) \$418,000,000 for comprehensive opioid use reduction activities, including as authorized by CARA, and for the following programs, which shall address opioid, stimulant, and substance use disorders consistent with underlying program authorities, of which—

(A) \$89,000,000 is for Drug Courts, as authorized by section 1001(a)(25)(A) of title I of the 1968 Act;

(B) \$40,000,000 is for mental health courts and adult and juvenile collaboration program grants, as authorized by parts V and HH of title I of the 1968 Act, and the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-416);

(C) \$35,000,000 is for grants for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners, as authorized by part S of title I of the 1968 Act;

(D) \$34,000,000 is for a veterans treatment courts program, and for other services for veterans in the criminal justice system, of which \$5,000,000 is for a national center for veterans justice;

(E) \$35,000,000 is for a program to monitor prescription drugs and scheduled listed chemical products; and

(F) \$185,000,000 is for a comprehensive opioid, stimulant, and substance use disorder program;

(15) \$2,500,000 for a competitive grant program authorized by the Keep Young Athletes Safe Act;

(16) \$82,000,000 for grants to be administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance for purposes authorized under the STOP School Violence Act;

(17) \$3,000,000 for grants to State and local law enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses involving civil rights, including as authorized by the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-325);

(18) \$17,000,000 for grants to State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies to conduct educational outreach and training on hate crimes and to investigate and prosecute hate crimes, including as authorized by section 4704 of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (Public Law 111-84), without regard to section 4704(b)(5);

(19) \$9,000,000 for grants to support community-based approaches to advancing justice and reconciliation, facilitating dialogue between all parties, building local capacity, de-escalating community tensions, and preventing hate crimes through conflict resolution and community empowerment and education;

(20) \$9,000,000 for programs authorized under the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act (34 U.S.C. 30507);

(21) \$114,000,000 for initiatives to improve police-community relations, of which \$27,000,000 is for a competitive matching grant program for purchases of body-worn cameras and related expenses for State, local, and Tribal law enforcement; \$32,000,000 is for a justice reinvestment initiative, for activities related to criminal justice reform and recidivism reduction; and \$55,000,000 is for a community violence intervention initiative; and

(22) \$10,000,000 for a grant program as authorized by the Daniel Aderl Judicial Security and Privacy Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-263);

Provided, That, if a unit of local government uses any of the funds made available under this heading to increase the number of law enforcement officers, the unit of local government will achieve a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform non-administrative public sector safety service: *Provided further*, That in the spending plan submitted pursuant to section 528 of this Act, the Office of Justice Programs shall specifically and explicitly identify all changes in the administration of competitive grant programs for fiscal year 2026, including changes to applicant eligibility, priority areas or weightings, and the application review process.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-415) (“the 1974 Act”); title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-351) (“the 1968 Act”); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) (“the 2005 Act”); the Missing Children’s Assistance Act (34 U.S.C. 11291 et seq.); the PROTECT Act (Public Law 108-21); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647) (“the 1990 Act”); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248) (“the Adam Walsh Act”); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-401) (“the 2008 Act”); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) (“the 2013 Act”); the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-324); the Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-267); the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-385); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473) (“the 1984 Act”); the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-198); and other juvenile justice programs, \$380,000,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) \$65,000,000 for programs authorized by section 221 of the 1974 Act, and for training and technical assistance to assist small, non-profit organizations with the Federal grants process: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this paragraph, \$500,000 shall be for a competitive demonstration grant program to support emergency planning among State, local, and Tribal juvenile justice residential facilities;

(2) \$105,000,000 for youth mentoring grants;

(3) \$55,000,000 for delinquency prevention, of which, pursuant to sections 261 and 262 of the 1974 Act—

(A) \$4,000,000 shall be for grants to prevent trafficking of girls;

(B) \$16,000,000 shall be for the Tribal Youth Program;

(C) \$4,500,000 shall be for competitive grants focusing on girls in the juvenile justice system;

(D) \$10,500,000 shall be for an initiative relating to youth affected by opioids, stimulants, and substance use disorder;

(E) \$9,000,000 shall be for an initiative relating to children exposed to violence; and

(F) \$2,000,000 shall be for the Arts in the Juvenile Justice Demonstration Program;

(4) \$43,000,000 for programs authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990;

(5) \$105,000,000 for missing and exploited children programs, including as authorized by sections 404(b) and 405(a) of the 1974 Act (except that section 102(b)(4)(B) of the 2008 Act shall not apply for purposes of this Act);

(6) \$4,500,000 for child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners, as authorized by section 222 of the 1990 Act; and

(7) \$2,500,000 for a program to improve juvenile indigent defense:

Provided, That not more than 10 percent of each amount may be used for research, evaluation, and statistics activities designed to benefit the programs or activities authorized: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the amounts designated under paragraphs (1) through (3) and (6) may be used for training and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the two preceding provisos shall not apply to grants and projects administered pursuant to sections 261 and 262 of the 1974 Act and to missing and exploited children programs.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payments and expenses authorized under section 1001(a)(4) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, such sums as are necessary (including amounts for administrative costs), to remain available until expended; and \$34,800,000 for payments authorized by section 1201(b) of such Act and for educational assistance authorized by section 1218 of such Act, to 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 such disability and education payments, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to “Public Safety Officer Benefits” from available appropriations 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.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (“the 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), \$500,167,000, 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) \$206,000,000 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 section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (34 U.S.C. 10381);

(7) \$133,167,000 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 “Congressionally Directed Spending” in the report accompanying this 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 3 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 6 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(P) 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 report accompanying this 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, con-

tinue, 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(P) 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 2023 through 2026 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 2026, 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 2026, 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 2026, 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 2024.

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. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for the application of Justice Manual 1-8.200 and 1-8.210, or for the application of any associated or substantially similar memoranda, policy documents, or informal guidance, to communications to and from the Chair, Vice Chair, or staff of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, or the Chair, Ranking Member, or staff of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, relating to Departmental resources, the application of enacted appropriations acts, or the application of Federal laws related to appropriations.

SEC. 223. The notices of funding opportunities for the grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance provided for under the heading "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities" shall be publicly posted no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That the Department of Justice shall make the awards for the grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance provided for under the heading "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities" by September 30,

2026: *Provided further*, That the requirements of this section may be waived only by submission of a letter, signed by the head of the respective grantmaking office, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate explaining in detail the justification for the waiver.

SEC. 224. The Attorney General shall retain, preserve, and compile any records or evidence related to any investigation, prosecution, services provided to victims, or incarceration of Jeffrey Epstein: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a report that includes information on the history of the Jeffrey Epstein case (including the 2008 non-prosecution agreement), victims and testimony (including notifications under section 3771 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the "Crime Victims' Rights Act")), investigation of co-conspirators, internal reviews and misconduct findings by the Department of Justice, the current status of investigations into the financial and trafficking networks of Jeffrey Epstein, an intelligence assessment of Jeffrey Epstein's financial ties, clients, and connections (if any) to the United States Government or foreign governments, and oversight failures at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York, New York: *Provided further*, That, as necessary to protect privacy, the Attorney General may redact the names and personally identifiable information of victims from the report submitted to Congress.

This title may be cited as the "Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2026".

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. 14056, 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 sec-

tions 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, \$7,300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the total amount specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be for the purposes and in not less than the amount for each such purpose specified in such table.

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; 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, \$950,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, \$975,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That \$110,000,000 shall be for the development, production, and demonstration of nuclear propulsion systems.

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, \$7,783,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the total amount specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be for the purposes and in not less than the amount for each such purpose specified in such table.

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, \$4,314,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the total amount specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be for the purposes and in not less than the amount for each such purpose specified in such table.

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, \$148,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the total amount specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be for the purposes and in not less than the amount for each such purpose specified in such table.

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, \$3,107,079,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *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, \$24,679,000 shall be made available for the SSMS projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Congressionally Directed Spending" in the report accompanying this 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, re-

vitalization, 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, \$275,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2031: *Provided*, 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 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$33,000,000: *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 \$1,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

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 6 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 12 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 2026 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 \$38,500,000 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.

There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a fund to be known as the "National Aeronautics and Space Administration Nonrecurring Expenses Fund" (the Fund). Unobligated balances of expired discretionary funds appropriated for this or any succeeding fiscal year from the General Fund of the Treasury to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) 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. 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 facilities infrastructure improvements, including nonrecurring maintenance, necessary for the operation of NASA, subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget. Amounts in the Fund may not be available for the purpose described in subsection (b)(3) of section 30102 of title 51, United States Code. Amounts in the Fund may be obligated only after the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 30 days in advance of the planned use of funds.

For the closeout of all Space Shuttle contracts and associated programs, amounts that have expired but have not been cancelled in the Exploration, Space Operations, Human Space Flight, Space Flight Capabilities, and Exploration Capabilities appropriations accounts shall remain available through fiscal year 2030 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred during the period of fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2013: *Provided*, That this section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

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, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$700,000,000 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, \$350,000,000, to remain available until expended.

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, \$1,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: *Provided*, That of the amount made available under this heading, the total amount specified in the table under this heading in the report accompanying this Act shall be for the purposes and in not less than the amount for each such purpose specified in such table.

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; \$444,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$12,000 is for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That contracts may be entered into under this heading in fiscal year 2026 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 Inspec-

tor General Act of 1978, \$24,410,000, of which \$1,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed 3 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 6 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, 2026".

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), the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-2), and the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (Public Law 117-328), 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 \$32,500,000 for payments to State and local enforcement agencies for authorized services to the Commission, \$455,000,000, of which \$2,788,000 shall be for the Office of the Inspector General: *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, of which not less than \$2,096,176 shall be for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

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, \$566,000,000, of which \$522,100,000 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 budget execution for the payment to the Legal Services Corporation shall be carried out in this fiscal year in the same manner as such budget execution was carried out in fiscal year 2024 and such payment shall be made in full as an annual installment paid to the Corporation at the beginning of the fiscal year in such amounts as specified under this heading: *Provided further*, 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 PROVISIONS—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 2025 and 2026, respectively.

Section 501 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105-119) is amended by adding the following new subsection at the end:

“(d) MODIFIED GOVERNING BODY REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of this Act, section 1007(c) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996f(c)) shall be applied by substituting ‘33 percent’ for ‘60 percent’.”

Section 502(2) of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-134) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

“(B) is governed by a board of directors or other governing body, 33 percent of which is comprised of attorneys who are members of the bar of a State, as defined in section 1002(8) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996a(8)), in which the legal assistance is to be provided.”

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, to remain available until September 30, 2027.

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, \$65,000,000, 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, 2027: *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. (a) 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 2026, 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 5 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 5 percent funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 5 percent; (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; or (9) terminates a Federal award or contract for no longer effectuating the program goals or agency priorities; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(b) Any reprogramming notification submitted pursuant to this section shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds.

(c) Any department or agency funded by this Act that plans a reduction-in-force shall notify the Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate in writing no later than 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

(d) No department or agency shall submit a reprogramming notification after July 1, 2026, except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property: *Provided*, That any such notification shall include a description of the extraordinary circumstances.

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 \$1,900,000,000 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 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. 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 2026 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2026.

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, 2026, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) "Economic Development Administration—Economic Development Assistance Programs", \$30,000,000, only from prior year appropriations; and

(2) "Census Working Capital Fund", \$15,000,000.

(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, 2026, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Office on Violence Against Women—Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs", \$15,000,000;

(2) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Office of Justice Programs", \$125,000,000; and

(3) "State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Community Oriented Policing Services", \$20,000,000.

(c) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby permanently rescinded, not later than September 30, 2026, from the following account in the specified amounts: "Working Capital Fund", \$100,000,000.

(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, 2026, 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 amounts provided under subparagraph (R) 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 C of Public Law 118–42; 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, or amounts provided under paragraph (7) under the heading “State and Local Law Enforcement Activities—Community Oriented Policing Services Programs” in title II of division C of Public Law 118–42.

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: *Provided*, That the spending plans submitted pursuant to this section shall contain at least the same level of detail as the spending plans submitted pursuant to this section in fiscal year 2024.

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 Mexico, 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 unclassified 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. Funds made available to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice in this Act and any remaining un-

obligated 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. 541. (a)(1) 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 2026 pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 102(a) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law 117–167) not otherwise allocated pursuant to section 546(a)(1)(B) of division C of Public Law 118–42, 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 2026” in the report 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 2026 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 2026” in the report accompanying this Act.

(b) Neither the President nor his designee may allocate any amounts that are made available for any fiscal year under section 102(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 2027,

the Director of the National Science Foundation, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate proposed allocations by account and by program, project, or activity, with detailed justifications, for amounts made available under section 102(d)(2) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 for fiscal year 2027.

(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 prior appropriations Acts, 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 prior appropriations Acts, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds.

SEC. 542. In making Federal financial assistance, the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation shall continue to apply the negotiated indirect cost rates for Institutions of Higher Education in section 200.414 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations, including with respect to the approval of deviations from negotiated indirect cost rates, to the same extent and in the same manner as such negotiated indirect cost rates were applied in fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this or prior Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts, or otherwise made available to the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation may be used to develop, modify, or implement changes to such fiscal year 2024 negotiated indirect cost rates.

This division may be cited as the “Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2026”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

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

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

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 9:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 11:30 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 11:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Sen-

ate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m., Monday, July 28; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed, and the Senate resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 85, Sam Brown; that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motions filed on July 24 ripen at 5:30 p.m.

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, Senators should expect one vote at 5:30 p.m. on Monday and two votes at approximately 8 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:02 p.m., adjourned until Monday, July 28, 2025, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate July 24, 2025:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

RICHARD TOPPING, OF OHIO, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MATTHEW LOHMEIER, OF ARIZONA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on July 24, 2025 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

ALINA HABBA, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE PHILIP R. SELLINGER, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JUNE 30, 2025.