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No. 191

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2025

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOST).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 12, 2025.

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

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Lead us, O Lord, this day on paths of righteousness, that emerging from these long weeks of trial and testing, we may discern what You would have us learn and how we are now to respond in faith. This shutdown has grated nerves and rattled souls. None have come through this impasse unscathed.

Remind us that the strength of Your presence and guiding hand have always been with us and remain with us still, so that having persevered we may learn the importance of patience, most especially with each other, as we commit to finishing the work set before us.

In having endured, may we receive the wisdom that persistence reveals, calling us to lead with humility and to respond with mercy.

Lord, grant that this ordeal would mature and perfect our faith, not in

the process, but faith in Your provision, not in seeking victory, but in pursuing virtue. Going forward may we prove worthy of the responsibility You have given us and faithful to the stewardship of the limitless blessings You have entrusted to our care.

We commit to Your will the work of this day, that it would glorify You and advance the work of Your kingdom.

In Your sovereign name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 10, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 10, 2025, at 10:45 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 778.

That the Senate passed S. 2296.

That the Senate passed S. 2392.

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 5371.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1608

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 4 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

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

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



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H4593

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 16, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the Certificate of Election received from the Honorable Adrian Fontes, Arizona Secretary of State, indicating that, at the Special Election held on September 23, 2025, the Honorable Adelita Grijalva was duly elected Representative in Congress for the Seventh Congressional District, State of Arizona.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,

Clerk.

Enclosure.

STATE OF ARIZONA
CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

I, Adrian Fontes, Secretary of State and Keeper of the Great Seal, do hereby certify that, at the 2025 Special General Election held in the State of Arizona on the 23rd day of September 2025, Adelita Grijalva was duly elected to the office of U.S. Representative in Congress—District No. 7 in and for the State of Arizona, as confirmed by the Official State Canvass on file in this office. As such, Adelita Grijalva is elected to serve as a Member of the 119th Congress to fill the remainder of the term that began at noon (EST) on January 3, 2025.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona. Done at the Capitol in Phoenix this 14th day of October 2025.

ADRIAN FONTES,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

□ 1610

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
ADELITA S. GRIJALVA, OF ARIZONA,
AS A MEMBER OF THE
HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Arizona delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Mrs. GRIJALVA appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 119th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
ADELITA S. GRIJALVA TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Arizona is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to congratulate our newest colleague and our fellow Arizonan on her swearing in as the Representative for Arizona's Seventh Congressional District, Congresswoman ADELITA GRIJALVA.

Congresswoman GRIJALVA has concentrated her career on issues advocating for students and supporting families.

As she follows in her late father's footsteps—and, boy, those are some footsteps, especially with those bolo ties, wow—I have no doubt she will bring to the Halls of Congress the same energy that has defined her years of public service.

As dean of the Arizona congressional delegation, I wish to congratulate Congresswoman GRIJALVA and welcome her to the United States House of Representatives.

I now yield to the gentleman from Mr. Arizona (Mr. STANTON), my friend.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GOSAR, the new dean of Arizona's State delegation. It has been a minute since we have all been together on the House floor. I am looking for cobwebs around here.

As dean, Congressman GOSAR replaces the late Congressman Raul Grijalva, one of the most impactful leaders in Arizona history.

Now, with great pride, I rise today to do something we have waited 50 long days to do—exactly 49 days too long—and that is to introduce our colleague from Arizona, Congresswoman ADELITA GRIJALVA.

Since September 23, the people of Arizona have been waiting for this day, and the excuses for the delay have changed seemingly daily. First they said they need an election certificate, though one isn't required. Then they wanted to make sure there was enough pomp and circumstance. Then we were informed about a nonexistent Pelosi precedent.

At one point, the Speaker went on television and said, "Bless her heart. She's a Representative-elect. She doesn't know how things work around here."

Bless his heart, because here is how it should work. Let's call it the Adelita Grijalva precedent: When the American people vote, this Chamber respects their will and seats them immediately. Politics should never come into play.

Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman GRIJALVA is a native Tucsonan, the granddaughter of a bracero who came here from Mexico. She is the youngest woman ever elected to the Tucson Unified School Board, serving 20 years, then a Pima County supervisor, fighting for working families, affordable housing, and early childhood education. She brings that same fight to Congress.

The people of Arizona's Seventh District placed their trust in her, and today that trust is rewarded.

Her first act of Congress will be a powerful one. She will be the 218th and

final signature on the discharge petition to force the Trump administration to release the Epstein files, delivering long overdue justice and accountability for hundreds of victims abused by rich and powerful men.

She is a smart, principled fighter through and through.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to welcome and introduce to this Chamber Congresswoman ADELITA GRIJALVA.

Mrs. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and friend, Congressman STANTON, for that kind introduction and to the entire Democratic delegation from Arizona and the delegation that stood here with me that has supported me throughout this process.

I rise today, the proud granddaughter of a bracero, a hardworking Mexican immigrant who came to this country for a better life, and I stand as the proud daughter of a U.S. Congressman, a man who spent his entire life fighting for justice, equity, and dignity for the most vulnerable.

From working as a vaquero to serving in Congress in just a single generation, that is the promise of this country. That is the America I want to raise my three beautiful children in—Adelina, Raul, and Joaquin. They, along with my amazing husband, Sol, and my wonderful Mama Ramona are here with me today.

"Thank you for your support and your love."

"Muchas gracias por su apoyo y tu amor."

Thank you to "the people," "la gente" of southern Arizona for making history, electing me as the first Latina, the first Chicana from Arizona to ever go to Congress.

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

"This is a historic moment for our community. It is an honor to be the first Latina to represent Arizona in Congress. Let me assure you, while I am the first, I will not be the last."

"Este momento es historico para nuestra comunidad. Es un honor ser la primera latina en representar Arizona en el Congreso, y les aseguro que aunque soy la primera, no sere la ultima."

The SPEAKER. The gentlewoman from Arizona will provide a translation of her remarks to the Clerk.

Mrs. GRIJALVA. While we celebrate this moment, today our American promise is under serious threat. Basic freedoms are under attack. Healthcare premiums are skyrocketing. Babies are being ripped away from their parents by masked agents. We can and must do better.

What is most concerning is not what this administration has done, but what the majority in this body has failed to do: Hold Trump accountable as the co-equal branch of government that we are.

It has been 50 days since the people of Arizona's Seventh Congressional District elected me to represent them; 50

days that over 800,000 Arizonans have been left without access to the basic services that every constituent deserves.

This is an abuse of power. One individual should not be able to unilaterally obstruct the swearing in of a duly elected Member of Congress for political reasons.

Our democracy only works when everyone has a voice. This includes the millions of people across the country who have experienced violence and exploitation, including Liz Stein and Jessica Michaels, both survivors of Jeffrey Epstein's abuse. They are here in the gallery with us this evening. I thank them for being here.

Just this morning, House Democrats released more emails showing that Trump knew more about Epstein's abuses than he previously acknowledged. It is past time for Congress to restore its role as a check and balance on this administration and fight for we, the American people.

We need to fight for our immigrant communities and veterans. We need to stand up for our public schools, children, and educators. We need to respect Tribal sovereignty and our environment. We need to stand up for LGBTQ+ rights because that is what the American people expect us to do, fight for them.

That is why I will sign the discharge petition right now to release the Epstein files, because justice cannot wait another day.

"Forward my people. Thank you very much."

"Adelante mi gente. Muchas gracias."

□ 1620

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentlewoman from Arizona, the whole number of the House is 433.

□ 1630

REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 4405, EPSTEIN FILES TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4405) to require the Attorney General to release all documents and records in possession of the Department of Justice relating to Jeffrey Epstein, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request

unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leadership.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BURCHETT. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, we Republicans are requesting this unanimous consent.

Are Democrats objecting to this request?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds the gentleman from Tennessee that, as indicated by section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, it is not a proper parliamentary inquiry to ask the Chair to indicate which side of the aisle has failed under the Speaker's guidelines to clear a unanimous-consent request, as was stated.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5371, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2026

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 873 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 873

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5371) making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, last night, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule providing for the con-

sideration of the motion to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371, the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026, and I am happy to say that it will end the government shutdown.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations, or their designees.

I rise in support of this rule and the underlying legislation. This bill delivers on our commitment to the American people by finally reopening the government. It delivers on the promises that we have made to our veterans, our farmers, and our taxpayers.

Let's be honest: This government shutdown was completely avoidable. On September 19, House Republicans passed a continuing resolution that funded critical services and would have given us time to negotiate long-term solutions. It was a yes vote to keep the government open and to pay our troops, air traffic controllers, and Federal employees.

Every Democrat but one voted no. Every Democrat but one voted to shut the government down. This is not opinion, and this is not messaging like Democrats keep trying to spin it. It is a fact that anyone can check the vote record. Democrats voted against a non-partisan, clean CR free of poison pills that would have continued Biden-level funding and kept the government open for negotiations.

Democrats chose politics over people. They refused to support a common-sense measure, and American families paid the price.

This bill restores stability to our national nutritional programs, which were put under unnecessary strain during the shutdown. It will fund WIC and SNAP, ensuring that low-income mothers and their babies have access to healthy and nutritious foods.

These programs should not have been used as a bargaining chip during the shutdown. Republicans are stepping up to protect Americans and ensure these programs remain stable and funded. That is what responsible governance looks like.

There are three appropriations bills included in the CR, put here to jumpstart our appropriations process.

H.R. 5371 delivers for rural America. It provides funding for the Farm Service Agency to support our Nation's farmers and ranchers. It invests in rural development programs, including funding affordable housing rental assistance for low-income families and seniors in rural communities. These investments strengthen our local economies and ensure that rural communities are not left behind.

□ 1640

For our troops, this bill demonstrates our dedication to veteran medical care, including funding for

mental health, telehealth services, homelessness programs, caregiver programs, opioid misuse prevention and treatment, medical research, healthcare tailored to our female veterans, rural healthcare initiatives, and construction for new VA hospitals and veteran cemeteries.

We are also funding veteran disability programs, education benefits, and employment training. Funds will be invested in military family housing projects to support those who support our troops and in projects to improve quality of life for our servicemembers, including hospitals and schools.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5371 is what governing with a purpose looks like. If Democrats had joined us in September to pass a commonsense continuing resolution, we could have avoided this Democrat shutdown altogether, but they chose reckless posturing over responsibility. Now, Republicans are stepping up to restore stability and reopen the government for the people.

I stand in support of this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5371 and stay focused on what matters: serving the American people.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH) for yielding me the customary time, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is great to see you all, Mr. Speaker. We have been looking for you guys everywhere. Where the hell have you been?

Imagine my shock when I found out that you guys went home. Republicans have been on 8 weeks of taxpayer-funded paid vacation. Why did Republicans do it? They did it because Democrats had the audacity to ask them to try to lower people's healthcare costs.

While they sat on their couch for 8 weeks, we were working. We listened to people who told us their health insurance premiums are doubling and tripling. We heard from people who don't understand why you guys moved at the speed of light to give tax breaks to billionaires but won't lift a damn finger to extend the tax credits that help ensure people's health insurance premiums don't skyrocket.

This CR, this dirty CR, which does nothing to solve the healthcare crisis, is one of the most immoral, unethical, evil things that I have ever seen happen in all of my time in Congress. It is just part of a larger pattern of indifference from Republicans that we have seen time after time after time.

When the billionaire class needed another tax cut, when they wanted to funnel money to the people who write their campaign checks, boy, did Republicans deliver. They rammed through their awful, big, ugly bill in a nanosecond. What the hell is wrong with them?

While regular people are struggling to pay bills, Donald Trump's net worth has gone up by \$3 billion since he became President.

People's health insurance premiums are doubling and tripling, but Republicans say there is no affordability crisis, even as their tariffs are costing people an extra 1,200 bucks per year.

Regular people can't afford the rent, and Republicans are letting Trump gild his bathroom and build a ballroom to host the rich and powerful elites who own the GOP.

These guys are bailing out Argentina. They are giving \$40 billion to an entirely different country rather than helping the 42 million Americans who can't afford to put food on the table.

Here is the clincher, Mr. Speaker: Buried in this CR is a corrupt kickback for eight Republican Senators, a million-dollar payday funded by taxpayers taken straight from the Treasury and deposited directly into their pockets.

What the hell is wrong with this place?

They promised to put America first. The only thing you guys put first is yourselves, yourselves and the rich and powerful people who pull your strings behind the scenes.

These people don't care. They don't have to call the insurance company because their claim was denied. They don't buy their own groceries. If you have a private jet, an offshore bank account, and an invite to Mar-a-Lago, go ahead and support your Republican Representative. If you are a regular person who feels like you are getting screwed over, and if you are fed up with the status quo here in Washington that only works for those at the top, this majority is not fighting for you—but we are.

Democrats are on your side, and we will fight with you every step of the way against the corruption, the lies, and the BS coming out of this administration. We will not back this so-called deal. It is not a real solution, and it is certainly not a clean CR. This CR leaves families twisting in the wind with zero guarantee there will ever, ever be a vote to extend tax credits to help everyday people pay for their healthcare.

I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this rule and "no" on the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, there is so much to unpack and to object to in the ranking member's opening statement, but I just want to comment on one of the issues.

I find the statement that Republicans were on vacation laughable. The idea that Republicans were on vacation during the shutdown is just simply false. It is false. Many of us were in Washington or in our districts meeting with constituents, advancing local priorities, and staying fully engaged with our constituents and our work.

Our dedication to serving the American people didn't pause during the shutdown, whether in D.C. or back at home, which, for the record, I was in both places and many, many of my Republican colleagues were, too. We were doing the work we were elected to do.

The real story here is not about the absence. It is about the commitment, and for Republicans, we never wavered.

If the Democrats cared so much about working, they would not have shut the government down.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), the esteemed chairwoman of the Committee on Rules.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, psychologists have a word for the things the Democrats accuse us of: "projection."

Mr. Speaker, I sure hope you did not watch all 7 hours of the Democrat group therapy session last night in the Rules Committee, but if you did, you saw what a clown show it was.

It was a crisp 40 degrees outside when we adjourned at around 1:30 a.m. this morning, but with the amount of hot air being spewed by Democrats in the committee room for 7 straight hours, you would have thought we were in the dead of summer.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I don't think Democrats really agree on anything. Last night and into the early hours of this morning, they showed everyone that they couldn't even agree on what they were angry about. They went off on so many tangents that it would have been a miracle if they arrived at a single, coherent thought at any point during our meeting.

The American people will see the exact same thing play out from them during this debate and during general debate on the floor later today.

Apparently, the only thing Democrats can agree on is that the government needs to stay shut down and that the American people need to suffer even more than they have already made them suffer.

We heard from Democrats repeatedly about the millions of people they believe are going to be affected when their own temporary COVID credits sunset at the end of this year—their own temporary COVID credits.

Did we hear anything about the millions of Americans who got walloped by Democrats when they shut the government down?

Did we hear an apology from Democrats to the American people for deliberately misleading them over 40 days?

Did we hear an admission that the only reason they shut down the government is to cover up for a catastrophic policy failure that they concocted and set an end date on?

No, we didn't hear one of those things, not one.

Mr. Speaker, I am not surprised. This is the kind of behavior that Americans have come to expect from Democrats. Has anyone ever noticed how Democrats have developed such a visceral reaction when confronted about their abdication of responsibility?

They shut the government down, and the moment you call attention to their own actions, all they do is obfuscate and start shrieking about unrelated things.

Scientists should study this at length and try to come up with a cure. It is a serious affliction, as was evidenced numerous times over in our Rules Committee meeting.

It is well past time to reopen the government and end the Democrat-concocted nightmare that Americans have been living through for over 40 straight days.

The CR before us will end that nightmare. It will get this legislative body and the entire Nation moving once more.

Democrats should grow a spine and accept responsibility for their own failures. I urge a "yes" vote on the rule.

□ 1650

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

Mr. Speaker, you have to love the Republicans. The gentlewoman from Minnesota says that they weren't on vacation. I want to remind her that they haven't voted for 8 weeks, and most people define "vacation" as you don't have to show up to work and you get paid.

That is exactly what Republicans did. They didn't show up to work, and they got paid. It was a paid vacation.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON).

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this bill. I am a "hell no" vote on any legislation that strips healthcare away from millions of Texans.

In my district, nearly 100,000 of my constituents rely on the Affordable Care Act's tax credits to pay for their coverage. Without these lifesaving credits, many of them will go without healthcare at all.

Every day during this shutdown, my office has heard from thousands of families across my district saying: For the love of God, save my healthcare.

Tucked away in this bill is a brazen payoff of millions of taxpayer dollars funneled to the benefit of a handful of Senators. While families are struggling to afford groceries and healthcare, we are being asked to sign off on a deal that lines the pockets of the very people who wrote it. That is an insult to every hardworking taxpayer who expects honesty from their government.

The contrast could not be clearer. Republicans are operating in the currency of cruelty and corruption while Democrats are fighting with courage and compassion. The American people deserve better, and I will never stop fighting to protect the basic necessities that every family needs to survive.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT).

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, the American farmer needs this bill to pass. The American

soldier needs this bill to pass. Our air traffic controllers need this bill to pass. The men and women who protect us here in this Capitol and all Federal law enforcement need this bill to pass.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of those who represent a lot of Federal employees, and they have been without a check for a long time. This is very simple. It is very simple. It is way past time to open the government up. There are going to be a lot of excuses about could have, should have, would have, and that we need to take this provision or that provision out, or Democrats are going to vote to keep the government shut down.

Mr. Speaker, the vote today is straight up or straight down. You vote to open the government up today, or you vote to keep it closed. That is all there is to it.

As for the provision that has been mentioned a few times about the Senate language, I have introduced a piece of legislation already to repeal the Senate language, and I am hopeful that we will have a vote on that as soon as we get back.

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

Mr. Speaker, I love my Republican colleagues. The majority is introducing legislation to repeal provisions in a bill that they are going to vote "yes" on. Figure that out.

Mr. Speaker, the previous question is the House Democrats' last attempt to make a change to this rule before it gets voted on, and I use this opportunity to talk about a last-minute provision that was slipped into this CR in the Senate. It is an outrageous giveaway to pad the pockets of eight Republican Senators, and it is one of the most corrupt things that I have seen in my life.

Mr. Speaker, if the House defeats the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to consider as adopted an amendment to the continuing resolution, offered by Representative SUBRAMANYAM, which would strike the corrupt giveaway out of the text of this bill so that it does not make it into law.

Mr. Speaker, this is a massive payday for Republicans. It would allow eight Republican Senators to shovel millions—millions—of dollars into their own wallets. I am talking about cash money. It is not for their States and not for their constituents. No, no. It is for their own personal bank accounts.

Why should a United States Senator or any party get a special right that nobody else has? No State legislator, no Governor, no judge, and no citizen in the entire country has this right, but we are creating it for a handful of Republican Senators. It is immoral. I say it is unconstitutional.

It is wrong, and it is probably the most brazen theft and plunder of public resources ever proposed in the United States Congress. It was tucked into this legislation, and I speak directly to

Republicans who say that they can't vote with us because it will delay the reopening of the government.

First off, that is exactly what these corrupt Senators were hoping they would say. Second, we absolutely can send this back to the Senate. They can quickly strip it and send the bill to the President. They finished this package in less than 2 days. This is one small thing that needs to be deleted. It is easy, and it could be done very fast.

Mr. Speaker, please spare me the excuses that we will get this done next week with a new bill. Once this is law, that is it. It is signed into law forever. It will never change. It is permanent, and the majority voted for it. Republicans all know that. So they shouldn't say that they are going to pass some new bill next week to address this. That is just an excuse to do nothing that would fix it.

Republicans moved at the speed of light to give tax breaks to billionaires, and the least that they could do is to give the same urgency to stop this shamelessly corrupt fleecing of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I get it. Trump is suing the U.S. Government for \$230 million, and I guess these Senators want in on the action. They want their own payday. I have never seen this level of grift, shameless corruption, and theft of public money in my entire life, ever.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our proposal, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SUBRAMANYAM).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind the gentleman from Massachusetts and others to please refrain from engaging in personalities toward Members of the Senate.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, do you know what people hate more than seeing their costs go up? It is seeing their costs go up while corrupt politicians line their pockets with taxpayers' money. That is what they really hate, yet that is what this bill does.

Republican Senators slipped into this bill a legal pathway for them to personally receive millions of dollars of taxpayers' money for being investigated after January 6. My colleagues on the other side talk about fiscal responsibility and say that there is no money for healthcare, but somehow there is taxpayer money for Republican Senators. This is an ethics violation. This is a breach of trust, and it calls into question the very legitimacy of this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I put forward an amendment to reject this corruption, but

committee Republicans voted it down last night. They said that they knew that it was corrupt but that there was nothing that could be done and that the system didn't work.

Republicans are the system, and House Republicans promised a vote on this next week as a standalone bill. There is no guarantee that the Senate will act. In fact, they probably won't act. The majority has the power to join us in righting this wrong today. Let's take out this ridiculous kickback. Otherwise, a vote for this bill is a vote for corruption.

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

Mr. Speaker, I never said that this bill was perfect. Not everyone agrees with the provision, and our colleague from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) just mentioned that he is already addressing it. What we do agree on is that it is critically important to get the government open, and that is why we are here today.

Mr. Speaker, it is getting our Federal employees paid and getting our troops paid. It is getting SNAP back on track and getting our airports back to full capacity. Once this happens, we can tackle the issues. We can get back to really doing the things for the American people and not using their suffering as leverage like Democratic Whip CLARK is willing to do.

Democrats have spent weeks performing political theater by refusing to open government, and they continue to perform that political theater. We need to prioritize the reopening of the government and stop the suffering that the Democrats want to use as leverage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this rule and ending this shutdown chaos.

For more than 40 days, the American people have endured a painful and entirely avoidable government shutdown. It was not because of policy differences but because Senate Democrats and CHUCK SCHUMER chose politics over people.

While Washington stalled, hard-working Americans paid the price. Our air traffic controllers went without pay. A system stretched thinner by the day had a new strain put on that system, which put millions of lives at risk. Americans depend on them to keep our skies safe. Families who rely on SNAP and WIC, parents who are just trying to feed their kids, were left wondering how they would make it through another week.

□ 1700

At the same time, our border agents and Coast Guard members continue to serve this country as their own families went without pay. Through it all, while everyday Americans carried the weight of this shutdown, Senate Democrats had chance after chance to end it,

but instead they chose to prolong the pain. That is not leadership. That is hypocrisy.

It was never about budgets or priorities. It was about power. It is not about turning government on. For them, it was about turning government into performance, where the people paying the highest price are the ones furthest from Washington.

For more than 40 days, families were used as political pawns and props while those responsible stood in front of cameras pretending to solve the crisis that they created. I actually saw a Member from my home State stand at a food bank, decry the fact that nutritional assistance was in question, then swear up and down that they would vote against ending this shutdown. That is the epitome of hypocrisy, and the American people deserve better than that.

House Republicans did our job. We passed a clean continuing resolution weeks ago, the same kind of straightforward measure that should have been agreed to immediately to keep this government open. Senate Democrats blocked that 14 times, prolonging this shutdown just to score points to their woke, angry mob.

This measure before us today is the same bipartisan framework they could have passed 40 days ago. The only thing that has changed is the political calendar.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the rule. Let's stand with the American people, the families, the veterans, and public servants who have carried the burden of this shutdown and reopen our government. Let's get this country moving again.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from ABC News titled: "Inflation climbs to highest level since January, beef prices soar."

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

There was no objection.

[From ABC News, Oct. 24, 2025]

INFLATION CLIMBS TO HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE JANUARY, BEEF PRICES SOAR

(By Max Zahn)

Consumer prices rose 3 percent in September compared to a year ago, extending a monthslong uptick that has sent inflation to its highest level since January, government data on Friday showed. The reading came in lower than economists' expectations.

The fresh data marked a slight increase from a 2.9 percent year-over-year increase recorded a month prior. An acceleration of price increases over recent months has coincided with a flurry of tariffs issued by President Donald Trump.

Beef prices soared nearly 15 percent over the year ending in September, data showed. Trump has set off outcry among some ranchers over a plan to import beef from Argentina in an effort to reduce U.S. prices.

Egg prices, a longtime symbol of rising costs, fell almost 5 percent in September. The price of eggs, stands about 1 percent lower than where it was a year ago. The price of coffee has surged 19 percent over the past year, the data showed.

The White House touted the September inflation numbers coming in below economists' expectations on Friday, with Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt posting on social media that they were "good news" for American families.

Leavitt also said on X that the ongoing government shutdown would likely result in no inflation report for October, "which will leave businesses, markets, families, and the Federal Reserve in disarray."

The data arrived more than a week later than originally planned, since the government shutdown has severely hamstrung the release of information about the economy.

The latest acceleration of price increases comes at a wobbly moment for the Nation's economy. In recent months, inflation has picked up while hiring has slowed, posing a risk of an economic double-whammy known as "stagflation."

The economic conditions have put the Federal Reserve in a bind. If the Fed raises interest rates as a means of protecting against tariff-induced inflation, it risks tipping the economy into a downturn. On the other hand, if the Fed lowers rates to stimulate the economy in the face of a hiring slowdown, it threatens to boost spending and worsen inflation.

Last month, the Fed cut its benchmark interest rate a quarter of a percentage point, opting for its first interest rate cut this year in an effort to revive the labor market.

"It's a challenging situation when our goals are in tension like this," Powell said, but he added that the balance of risks had shifted toward greater concern over sluggish hiring.

Policymakers are widely expected to make an additional quarter-point cut when they meet next week, according to CME FedWatch Tool, a measure of market sentiment.

But an elevated inflation reading on Friday could give Fed officials pause, since a rate cut would increase the likelihood of a spike in demand that further drives up prices.

In recent months, tariffs modestly contributed to the uptick in overall inflation, analysts previously told ABC News, but overall price increases owed largely to a rise in housing and food products with little connection to Trump's levies.

Last week, President Donald Trump threatened 100 percent tariffs on all China-made goods starting Nov. 1 in response to restrictions placed on rare earth minerals. Beijing has publicly stood firm on the policy, leaving the two sides at an impasse with massive implications for the price of consumer goods imported from China.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The Washington Post titled: "From groceries to gas, Americans say they're spending more under Trump."

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

There was no objection.

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 4, 2025]

FROM GROCERIES TO GAS, AMERICANS SAY THEY'RE SPENDING MORE UNDER TRUMP

(By Abha Bhattarai and Andrew Ba Tran)

A majority of Americans say they are spending more on groceries and utilities than they were a year ago, and they blame President Trump for the rising prices, a Washington Post-ABC News-Ipsos poll finds.

About 7 in 10 Americans say their grocery costs have risen in the past year, while about 6 in 10 say their utility costs have edged

higher, according to the poll, conducted in late October. Roughly 4 in 10 say the same about health care, gas and housing. The findings reflect angst about the cost of living, which has emerged as a key issue in the off-year elections across the country on Tuesday.

"Even as inflation has gone down, people are still struggling with very high price levels for food, energy and health care," said Sophie Mitra, an economics professor at Fordham University. "The rate of increases has slowed, but things are still very difficult, especially for low- and middle-income households."

Americans' discontent reflects government data showing that inflation is slowly worsening. Utility costs, in particular, have jumped 12 percent in the past year, according to data from September. Grocery prices have risen by 3 percent, though some categories have recorded more dramatic increases. Meat prices, for example, have climbed more than 8 percent since last year, while canned fruits and vegetables are up 5 percent. Coffee has gone up by nearly 19 percent.

Roughly 6 in 10 Americans blame Trump "a great deal" or "a good amount" for the current rate of inflation and rising prices, the Post-ABC-Ipsos survey found. About two-thirds of independents (66 percent) and 92 percent of Democrats blame him, compared with 20 percent of Republicans.

The poll also found that 65 percent of Americans disapprove of Trump's handling of tariffs and that 62 percent disapprove of his handling of the economy, both figures little changed from April.

Responses were split across party lines, particularly for food expenses: 89 percent of Democrats, 73 percent of independents and 52 percent of Republicans report spending more on groceries compared with a year ago. Overall, Democrats were more than 30 percentage points likelier than Republicans to say they are spending more on a range of necessities, including gas, health care and housing.

Rising prices have made affordability a key political issue in the Tuesday elections. Despite their differing ideological views, Democrats running in Virginia, New Jersey and New York have centered their campaigns on addressing cost-of-living issues. Zohran Mamdani, the Democratic nominee for mayor in New York, has focused heavily on making the city more affordable through proposals such as universal child care, free buses and city-owned grocery stores.

"Every politician says New York is the greatest city on the globe," Mamdani said in his first campaign ad. "But what good is that if no one can afford to live here?"

In Palmerton, Pennsylvania, Vicki Sestok is paying 30 percent more per kilowatt-hour of electricity than she was a couple of months ago. She and her husband, who have already switched to LED lights and installed a heat pump, are running out of ways to cut costs, she said.

"The house will just have to be cooler this winter," said Sestok, 57, who voted for former vice president Kamala Harris in last year's presidential election. "We're going to have to put on an extra sweater, and that's going to be that."

The rising utility bills are just one of the challenges squeezing Sestok's finances. Her daughter, a chemist, recently lost her job because of funding cuts, and her son, who is disabled, has yet to get his latest round of SNAP benefits. "I'm helping out on both ends," she said.

Food costs are also inching up, she said. Sestok spends between \$200 and \$250 a week on groceries, at least \$70 more than she used to.

Although the Trump administration's sweeping new tariffs have yet to dramati-

cally reignite inflation, there are signs that they are pushing up the price of certain goods, such as toys and cars. Economists warn that it could take months for the full effects of those policies to show up, leaving many business owners and household on edge. More than 6 in 10 Americans say tariffs contribute to inflation, the poll found. And nearly 6 out of 10 Americans believe tariffs harm the U.S. economy, including 88 percent of Democrats and 64 percent of independents. However, nearly half of Republicans say the U.S. economy is improved by tariffs.

By 45 percent to 28 percent, more people say they believe tariffs hurt U.S. manufacturing companies, although 56 percent of Republicans say the levies will help domestic producers.

Spencer Williamson, who works in medical sales in Tempe, Arizona, says he's feeling better about the economy than he was a year ago. The 34-year-old voted for Trump and says he's hopeful that the president's plan to revive manufacturing and create new jobs will lead to longterm change. In the meantime, he has been happy to see his grocery bill stay steady.

"Certain things seem to be stabilizing," he said. "But, of course, there are still hurdles. House prices are still too expensive. It's hard to feel great about the economy."

The Washington Post-ABC News-Ipsos poll was conducted online Oct. 24 through Oct. 28 among 2,725 U.S. adults. The sample was drawn through the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, an ongoing panel of U.S. households recruited by mail using random sampling methods. Overall results have a margin of error of plus or minus 1.9 percentage points.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The New Republic titled: "'No, You're wrong': Trump Spirals When Pressed on Rising Food Prices."

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

There was no objection.

[From The New Republic, Nov. 3, 2025]

"'NO, YOU'RE WRONG': TRUMP SPIRALS WHEN PRESSED ON RISING FOOD PRICES

(By Rachel Kahn)

President Donald Trump desperately tried to pivot the conversation away from his tanking economy in an interview with *60 Minutes* Sunday.

When the president brought up the stock market, O'Donnell pointed out that many Americans may not feel the effects of market growth in their wallets: "When the stock market is doing well, that doesn't affect everybody. Not everybody is invested in the stock market—"

"It does," insisted Trump. "Oh it does, it does."

O'Donnell pushed ahead, observing, "Grocery prices are up."

Trump ignored her, choosing to instead over-exaggerate the growth of 401(k) retirement savings accounts. O'Donnell, not taking the bait, tried again to get the president to answer her question: "But for people that don't have 401(k)s, who are not invested in the stock market—they've seen their grocery prices go up."

"No, you're wrong," Trump responded. "They went up under Biden, right now they're going down. Other than beef, which we're working on."

In reality, grocery prices are not down—they're up. Grocery prices are 2.7 percent higher than they were last September and 1.4 percent higher than January, when Trump triumphantly returned to office. They're also

still on the rise, according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics last Friday. Overall, grocery prices have increased almost 30 percent in the last five years.

Though this is far from the first time that Trump has lied on camera, pretending that grocery prices are down is particularly egregious. The president campaigned on lowering prices, and has lied repeatedly about the fact that his nonsensical tariffs and cruel mass deportation campaign—which targets many of the people who grow and harvest our food—have hurt consumers.

Meanwhile, Trump is gilding the Oval Office and building a ballroom. At least he's not out of touch!

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The New Republic titled: "Trump Admits He Doesn't Care About 'Affordability' As Economy Plunges."

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

There was no objection.

[From The New Republic, Nov. 7, 2025]

TRUMP ADMITS HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT "AFFORDABILITY" AS ECONOMY PLUNGES

(By Malcolm Ferguson)

As inflation rises, layoffs surge, and SNAP benefits stop, President Trump told Americans point-blank that he does not want to hear about their affordability issues.

"Talk about the cost of Thanksgiving, and the cost of living through Thanksgiving. . . . Our energy costs are way down, our groceries are way down, everything is way down. And the press doesn't report it," the president said last evening while taking questions from reporters. "You know, I call the Democrats connen and women, they make up numbers. But when you look at the 25 percent reduction in costs for Thanksgiving between Biden and me . . . it's the biggest reduction in cost in the history of that chart or whatever it is they do."

The Thanksgiving cost numbers Trump is touting come directly from Walmart, which is selling a \$40 Thanksgiving basket compared to a \$55 one last year. But this year's meal has less food in it too.

"So I don't wanna hear about the affordability," Trump continued. "We're getting close to \$2 a gallon gasoline. With Biden it was \$4.50, \$5. Another thing, inflation. We had the worst inflation in the history of our country. Now we have virtually no inflation at all . . . so the affordability is much better with the Republicans."

This short rant was ridden with lies. Everything is not "way down."

Inflation is still going up. This summer, Americans saw the biggest grocery price jump in over three years. Average grocery prices in September were around 2.7 percent higher than they were the year before and around 1.4 percent higher than they were when Trump got back into office in January.

It's truly a travesty that this man who campaigned on affordability, and on remembering the forgotten working class, is now telling those very same people to shut up and be happy while outright lying about the state of affordability in this country. It was already bad, and Trump has unquestionably made it worse. But he'd rather lie and finger-point than admit that and work to fix it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from MSNBC titled: "'Not a big issue': Republicans shrug as consumers confront health care sticker shock."

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

There was no objection.

[From MSNBC, Oct. 30, 2025]

'NOT A BIG ISSUE': REPUBLICANS SHRUG AS CONSUMERS CONFRONT HEALTH CARE STICKER SHOCK

(By Steve Benen)

For those who follow health-care policy closely, it's been obvious for quite a while that health insurance premiums were poised to soar, especially as Republicans allow Covid-era subsidies to expire. The problem, however, has been on the horizon for a long time.

That's no longer the case; the problem is here. Many Americans are now confronting the severity of increased costs, with millions of families facing payments that will double or even triple in 2026.

The conditions have left GOP officials with limited options about how best to respond to the problem. Much of the party has effectively settled on the position of "this doesn't really matter." The Hill reported:

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Mehmet Oz downplayed on Wednesday the likely substantial increase in the amount Americans will pay for health insurance on the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) federal marketplace.

At an event ostensibly about prescription drug costs, a reporter asked, "Unless those tax credits are extended, the subsidies, the average plan will increase for Americans by somewhere around 115 percent. Do you believe that Congress should extend those subsidies so that most Americans do not receive significant increases in their premiums?"

Mehmet Oz, the former television personality who was tapped to lead the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, asked about the source of the figure. The reporter noted that the statistic came by way of KFF, a leading health research group (formerly known as the Kaiser Family Foundation).

Oz responded that KFF had retracted that assessment (that does not appear to be the case), before adding that "the truth" is that the average American who gets coverage through the Affordable Care Act will only have to pay \$13 more next year. He added that increased costs are "not the big issue."

Right off the bat, it's worth emphasizing that Oz's claims weren't true: It's not clear where his claim about \$13 in additional costs comes from, but the actual increases are on track to be vastly worse.

Complicating matters, however, is the frequency with which other Republicans are also responding to the conditions with shrugged shoulders. House Speaker Mike Johnson, for example, last week derided the "so-called forthcoming health-care crisis."

The same day, Republican Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin told CNBC viewers, "I don't think this is going to be any kind of gut-wrenching problem if these enhanced subsidies just go away."

A few days later, Republican Rep. Mark Alford of Missouri acknowledged that many U.S. consumers will have "a hard time" dealing with the increased coverage costs, but he wanted his party to stay the course anyway.

The Republican answer to this problem is to downplay the importance of the problem. That seems politically untenable, but for now, GOP officials don't appear to have an alternative.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an opinion article published in MSNBC titled: "Trump's Argentina bailout once again puts Americans last."

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

There was no objection.

[From MSNBC, Oct. 21, 2025]

TRUMP'S ARGENTINA BAILOUT ONCE AGAIN PUTS AMERICANS LAST

(By Rep. Nydia Velázquez)

In January, Donald Trump opened his inaugural address by promising to "put America first" daily and usher in a new golden age for American families. Ten months in, Americans are still waiting for the golden age to arrive and reeling from Trump administration policies that have actively made their lives worse.

His administration's signature legislation delivers the largest Medicaid cuts in U.S. history, threatening to strip coverage from 15 million people while taking food assistance from children, seniors, and people with disabilities. His erratic trade policy has worsened the cost-of-living crisis, amounting to an average \$1,300 tax increase per household this year. And as the Republican shutdown drags on, essential services are halted and paychecks paused for hundreds of thousands of federal workers.

Now, with government operations paralyzed and Americans' pocketbooks reeling, the White House has made the extraordinary decision to move forward with a \$20 billion bailout for Argentina. Republicans and Democrats alike are asking what, exactly, is "America First" about sending billions of U.S. dollars abroad while Americans are suffering at home. The irony is especially sharp for U.S. farmers, who have been shut out of China's soybean market because of Trump's trade war—just as Argentina moves in to fill that gap. While Washington props up Buenos Aires, small-farm bankruptcies here have climbed to a five-year high.

During a White House meeting with Argentine President Javier Milei last week, President Trump provided the answer. Asked how the bailout would help the U.S., he replied, "Just helping a great philosophy take over a great country."

Even Trump knows this deal has nothing to do with helping Americans and everything to do with propping up a political ally.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has called Argentina a "systemically important ally," but its real importance to this administration is political rather than economic.

President Milei has styled himself as an ideological cousin of Trump and Elon Musk, though his campaign of extreme austerity came first. At the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Washington, D.C., this February, Milei presented Musk with a chainsaw to highlight the links between Musk's Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, and Milei's austerity campaign in Argentina. Like DOGE, Milei's program was billed as a war on waste, but in practice, it became a showy slashing spree that gutted public services while doing little to fix Argentina's deeper economic problems.

Milei's program has driven household spending on utilities up from 6 percent to 15 percent, according to a report from the University of Buenos Aires, and pushed the country to the brink of a currency crisis.

This situation has left many Argentines fed up with the Milei political agenda, causing his party to suffer a stunning loss in a Buenos Aires provincial election in September. With more potential losses looming in a pivotal Argentine midterm election, Trump decided to step in to stop the bleeding. The political motive behind the bailout was made crystal clear last week when Trump said the U.S. is "not going to waste our time" if Milei's coalition did not prevail in November.

That motivation should alarm every taxpayer. Using U.S. funds to influence a foreign election is a glaring misuse of public money. The fact that Milei's government is embroiled in numerous alleged corruption scandals makes the bailout even more concerning.

Even the structure of the bailout raises red flags. The Treasury Department is utilizing the Exchange Stabilization Fund, or ESF, to extend a massive line of credit without any conditionality or immediate congressional oversight. Such intervention is almost without precedent. Historically, deployment of the ESF—such as for Mexico in 1995 and Asian economies in 1997—came with clear repayment terms and transparency requirements to protect American taxpayers. The Trump administration has disclosed no such safeguards here.

This is important, as Argentina's capacity to repay the loan is highly uncertain. Its sovereign bonds are rated below investment grade across the board. Investors consider them a speculative gamble, reflecting just how precarious Argentina's finances have become. Meanwhile, the government has been burning through billions in reserves to prop up an overvalued exchange rate—a strategy that cannot last, no matter how much it borrows from the United States or other institutions. The Treasury Department owes the public an explanation of what safeguards or repayment terms exist to protect U.S. taxpayers from loss.

Trump's promise to put America first has become a hollow slogan. At home, he's dismantling the government programs that working families rely on. Abroad, he's using taxpayer dollars on a risky bailout of a foreign government that shares his politics. If this is his idea of America first, Americans deserve far better.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from PBS titled: "Trump administration working on doubling Argentina financing to \$40 billion."

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

There was no objection.

[From PBS News, Oct. 16, 2025]

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION WORKING ON DOUBLING ARGENTINA FINANCING TO \$40 BILLION

(By Fatima Hussein and Andrea Vulcano)

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration is looking to provide an additional \$20 billion in financing for Argentina through a mix of financing from sovereign funds and the private sector.

That would come on top of the \$20 billion credit swap line that the U.S. Treasury pledged to Argentine President Javier Milei and his government this month to bolster the South American nation's collapsing currency.

"We are working on a \$20 billion facility that would complement our swap line, with private banks and sovereign funds that, I believe, would be more focused on the debt market," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told reporters Wednesday. He called it "a private-sector solution" and said "many banks are interested in it and many sovereign funds have expressed interest."

At a White House meeting Tuesday with Milei, Republican President Donald Trump said his administration wanted to help "our neighbors" with the aid package, but he also suggested that the money could be pulled if Milei's party did not prevail in the Oct. 26 midterm elections.

"If he loses, we are not going to be generous with Argentina," Trump said.

The Argentine peso weakened slightly Wednesday after Trump's comments. The peso depreciated about 0.7 percent, with the dollar—the currency Argentines rely on to save—trading at 1,395 pesos, compared with 1,385 pesos the previous day.

On Wall Street, shares of major Argentine companies rose slightly after dropping as much as 8.1 percent Tuesday upon Trump's comments.

In Argentina, the opposition's criticism was swift.

Former President Cristina Fernández, who is under house arrest after a corruption conviction, wrote on social media: "Trump to Milei in the United States: 'Our agreements depend on who wins election.' Argentines . . . you already know what to do!"

Martin Lousteau, president of the centrist Radical Civic Union, said "Trump doesn't want to help a country—he only wants to save Milei, and that 'nothing good can come of this.'"

Maximiliano Ferraro, head of the opposition Civic Coalition, called Trump's comments "a blatant act of extortion against the Argentine Nation."

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from Forbes titled: "Presidency Boosts Trump's Net Worth By \$3 billion In A Year."

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

There was no objection.

[From Forbes, Sept. 9, 2025]

PRESIDENCY BOOSTS TRUMP'S NET WORTH BY
\$3 BILLION IN A YEAR
(By Dan Alexander)

Donald Trump just had the most lucrative year of his life. The president is now worth a record \$7.3 billion, up from \$4.3 billion in 2024, when he was still running for office. The \$3 billion gain vaulted him 118 spots on The Forbes 400, where he lands at No. 201 this year.

No president in U.S. history has used his position of power to profit as immensely as Trump. His primary vehicle for enrichment: cryptocurrency, an asset class full of hype and vulnerable to regulators. Teaming up with his three sons, Trump announced a crypto venture in September 2024 named World Liberty Financial, which initially struggled to gain traction. Then he won the White House.

Crypto entrepreneur Justin Sun, whom the Securities and Exchange Commission had accused of fraud, invested \$75 million, routing an estimated \$40 million to the president-elect and millions more to his family members, kickstarting a bonanza that has since snowballed. In January, days before reentering the White House, Trump launched a memecoin, adding hundreds of millions to his pile of cash.

In office, Trump rolled back regulatory enforcement of crypto and signed legislation favorable to the industry, ensuring he would personally benefit from conflicts of interest. His memecoins, initially tied up for three months, now unlock daily, freeing tens of millions per week. World Liberty Financial, meanwhile, has continued selling tokens, including to opaque buyers, generating an estimated \$1.4 billion so far. A Trump family entity receives a roughly 75% cut of those sales, amounting to more than \$1 billion.

The president apparently made plans to sell part of that entity, according to a letter that a court-appointed monitor overseeing the Trump Organization wrote to a New York judge in May. It remains unclear what percentage the president sold or whether the

transaction even happened. The identity of the supposed buyer also remains unknown. The Trump Organization did not respond to questions about the deal. (Shortly after a Forbes reporter first exposed it, the president ranted about the journalist on Truth Social.)

With supporters piling into risky assets, Trump deployed his cash conservatively. He paid off \$114 million of debt against 40 Wall Street, a troubled New York skyscraper, at the start of the summer. In July, he knocked out a couple of smaller loans, totaling an estimated \$15 million, against mansions in New York and Florida. He also loaded up on municipal and corporate bonds. Trump's balance sheet is now stronger than it has ever been, with an estimated \$1.1 billion of liabilities and \$8.4 billion of assets, \$1.1 billion of which are in liquid holdings.

CASHING IN ON CRYPTO

Most of Trump's jump in net worth comes from his move into cryptocurrency, which provided him with a pile of cash. He still has plenty of coins leftover, set to jump in value as they unlock over the course of his presidency. Below, Forbes highlights which parts of the Trump fortune improved the most over the last year.

Memecoin: +\$710 million
Liquid assets: +\$660 million
Licensing and management business: +\$410 million
Legal victory: +\$470 million
World Liberty Financial tokens: +\$340 million
Stablecoin business: +\$240 million

Almost everything in his portfolio is doing well. Appellate judges in New York threw out a roughly \$500 million fraud penalty in August. Trump's real-estate licensing business, stalled out for years, has come roaring back to life, with new deals in Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Romania, India, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Revenues jumped an estimated 580% in 2024 to \$45 million, boosting the value of the business by \$400 million. In the United States, the president's golf-and-club portfolio continues to thrive, as profits jumped an estimated 30% in 2024, adding roughly \$325 million to Trump's net worth.

With so much money coming in, the president may soon get back to his first love, building. He and his family have been making noise for years about constructing small villages at golf resorts in Scotland and Florida. Projects like that require a lot of liquidity, something that has not always been available to Trump. But now, after reclaiming the White House—and cashing in on the power that comes with it—he can pretty much do anything he wants.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from People.com titled: "Donald Trump Hosts Great Gatsby-Themed Halloween Party as 42 Million Americans Brace for SNAP Benefits to Expire."

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

There was no objection.

[From People, Nov. 1, 2025]

DONALD TRUMP HOSTS GREAT GATSBY-
THEMED HALLOWEEN PARTY AS 42 MILLION
AMERICANS BRACE FOR SNAP BENEFITS TO
EXPIRE

(By Bailey Richards)

President Donald Trump celebrated Halloween with a Great Gatsby-themed party as millions of Americans prepared to lose their SNAP benefits amid the government shutdown.

On Friday, Oct. 31, Trump, 79, hosted a Halloween party inspired by F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic 1925 novel at his Palm Beach, Fla., estate, Mar-a-Lago. The president sat with Secretary of State Marco Rubio at the Roaring '20s bash, which was complete with feathers and flapper dresses, photos show.

The official theme of the lavish event was The Great Gatsby, the Roaring '20s and "a little party never killed nobody," according to reports from White House correspondents Danny Kemp and Kellie Meyer of AFP News Agency and NewsNation, respectively.

Footage of the event shared by Meyer on X shows Trump and Rubio, 54, smiling and chatting at a table with other guests. At a certain point in the evening, all members of the press were ordered to leave Mar-a-Lago, Meyer reported.

Trump hosted guests at his Palm Beach property as millions of Americans braced to lose their federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, sometimes referred to as "food stamps," the following day amid the ongoing government shutdown.

Last week, the U.S. Department of Agriculture warned that there would not be enough funding for the 42 million Americans who rely on SNAP benefits to receive their money on Saturday, Nov. 1. (The program provides one in eight people in the U.S. with money to buy food.)

U.S. President Donald Trump talks at a press conference with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer (not pictured) at Chequers at the conclusion of a state visit on September 18, 2025 in Aylesbury, England. This is the final day of President Trump's second UK state visit, with the previous one taking place in 2019 during his first presidential term; "SNAP/EBT Food Stamp Benefits Accepted" is displayed on a screen inside a Family Dollar Stores Inc. store in Chicago, Illinois, U.S., on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Dollar Tree Inc. released earnings figures on March 4.

"Donald Trump hosted a Great Gatsby party while SNAP benefits were about to disappear for 42 million Americans," Newsom wrote on X, reposting Kemp's photo from inside the event. "He does not give a damn about you."

The government shutdown began on Oct. 1 and is the second-longest on record. The largest point of contention is related to the Affordable Care Act, with Democrats seeking to quickly extend ACA tax credits to prevent healthcare premiums from dramatically rising for millions of Americans. Despite overwhelming public support, Republicans have refused to budge on the issue, saying they can negotiate after the government reopens.

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Along with the loss of federal SNAP benefits for millions, hundreds of thousands of federal employees are furloughed or working without pay amid the government shutdown. Longtime Transportation Security Administration (TSA) employee LaShanda Palmer is one of them. She has not been paid since the shutdown began, she previously told PEOPLE.

"I have a car note, I have insurance, I have a grandchild that I have guardianship over, who's 6," as well as two of her five children who live with her, she told PEOPLE. Palmer, who works at the Philadelphia International Airport, also has a \$1,375 rent payment due on Nov. 1, along with overdrawn checking and savings accounts and mounting overdraft fees.

"It is extremely hard," said the lead transportation security officer, one of an estimated 1.4 million federal employees furloughed or working without pay while the federal government is locked in a shutdown.

Elaborating on her situation amid the shutdown—the second she's endured, including the last one during Trump's first term—Palmer told PEOPLE, "I don't want to get an eviction notice. I'm in a position right now, come Nov. 1, where my rent may not get paid because I don't have [rent money] to pay it."

"And it's not that I don't work for it because I am working for it," she added. "I should have it."

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The New York Times titled: "Trump's Latest White House Makeover: The Lincoln Bathroom in Marble and Gold."

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

There was no objection.

[From The New York Times, Oct. 31, 2025]

TRUMP'S LATEST WHITE HOUSE MAKEOVER:
THE LINCOLN BATHROOM IN MARBLE AND GOLD
(By Luke Broadwater)

President Trump is not stopping with the East Wing.

On Friday, Mr. Trump said he had renovated the bathroom in the Lincoln Bedroom, posting two dozen photos on social media as he continues to remodel the White House in his own style.

Mr. Trump said the new design of black and white marble with gold faucets and light fixtures was "very appropriate for the time of Abraham Lincoln."

The bathtub fixtures have been replaced, and the tub itself is embedded in a nest of "highly polished statuary marble," as President Trump put it. Credit . . . Donald Trump, via Truth Social

The White House did not say, in response to questions, who paid for the renovation, how much it cost or which contractor built it.

The bathroom is only the latest remodel that Mr. Trump has undertaken at the White House, including the demolition of the East Wing. He has wide latitude as president to make changes, although critics have raised questions about the funding and lack of transparency.

President Harry Truman redid the bathroom in 1945, and Mr. Trump has repeatedly criticized its style.

Speaking to donors this month, Mr. Trump called the bathrooms style "not good."

"Art Deco doesn't go with, you know, 1850 and civil wars and all of the problems," Mr. Trump said. "But what does is statuary marble. So I ripped it apart and we built the bathroom. It's absolutely gorgeous and totally in keeping with that time."

A photo of the sink and vanity taken in July, before the renovations began. Credit . . . Andrea Hanks/The White House

Edward Lengel, who served as the chief historian of the White House Historical Association, said of the photos Mr. Trump posted: "It doesn't look anything like 1860s interiors to me."

Michael F. Bishop, the former executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, said the bathroom was a sitting room in the president's day and was unlikely to have included marble.

"The present-day bathroom only takes up a portion of the Lincoln sitting room," Mr. Bishop said. "They created a bathroom in the corner of this room. Trump's change to

the bathroom is not remotely a crime against historical preservation or anything like that. It was just a fairly dated-looking bathroom."

The historian Harold Holzer, the author of many books about Mr. Lincoln, said that when Mr. Lincoln moved into the White House in 1861, there were two water closets on the second floor, including one adjacent to the rooms where he lived with the family.

When Mary Todd Lincoln complained about the overall poor condition of the White House, Mr. Holzer said, he reminded her that it was better than any other house they had ever lived in.

"Lincoln had an outhouse in Springfield, and heaven knows what when he lived in log cabins with his parents, so the plain bathroom was fine with him," Mr. Holzer said. "He thought it was a majestic step up."

During his second term, Mr. Trump has wasted no time making changes to historical elements of the White House, arguing that parts of it are dated or too small. He tore down the entire East Wing, which had stood for more than a century, to make way for a planned 90,000-square-foot, \$300 million ballroom that he said was necessary for receiving dignitaries.

His plans for the size of the ballroom continue to expand.

Mr. Trump has said that he and a group of donors—not the taxpayers—are footing the bill for the ballroom. His staff has released a list of donors, but has not said how much each one has given. The money is being deposited in the Trust for the National Mall, a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity that is not subject to transparency laws.

He also has added gold moldings and gold decorations throughout the Oval Office, and gold ornaments to the Cabinet Room. He cut down the White House's historic magnolia tree, which President Andrew Jackson planted in 1829 in memory of his wife, Rachel.

He removed a photo of Hillary Clinton and replaced it with an image of his own face colored with the American flag. He added marble floors and a chandelier to the Palm Room.

He paved over the Rose Garden grass to add a patio. Along the West Wing colonnade, he added gold-framed photos of every American president except his predecessor, Joseph R. Biden Jr., whom he depicted as an autopen.

Mr. Trump and White House staff members say the president is granted wide latitude to make renovations on the property. Mr. Trump has said he is not subject to zoning regulations or permitting requirements.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The Nation titled: "The Bill to End the Shutdown Is Full of Giveaways to Republicans."

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

There was no objection.

[From the Nation, Nov. 11, 2025]

THE BILL TO END THE SHUTDOWN IS FULL OF
GIVEAWAYS TO REPUBLICANS
(By Joan Walsh)

Last night, eight Democratic senators caved and voted for a bill to open the government without restoring the Affordable Care Act subsidies they'd promised to fight for. You might think Donald Trump would appreciate the olive branch, but you'd be wrong. That very same night, Trump's Justice Department announced a mass pardon for almost 80 individuals involved in Trump's campaign to overturn the 2020 election. This list included Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell, and John Eastman.

But that's not the only gift to the Republicans who tried to help Trump overturn the 2020 election. Tucked inside the bill is a measure that would create a slush fund to enable senators who've had their phone records subpoenaed, without their knowledge, to sue over invasion of privacy, for at least half a million dollars. It's basically free money for Lindsey Graham, Marsha Blackburn, Bill Hagerty, Josh Hawley, Dan Sullivan, Tommy Tuberville, Ron Johnson, and Cynthia Lummis, all of whom had their metadata subpoenaed by Jack Smith. (No messages were included.) If they all won in court, they'd pocket at least \$4 million collectively.

The bill would limit the government's defense against such claims, removing qualified or sovereign immunity as grounds for such a move to fight a lawsuit over the issue.

In last-minute maneuvers, Senate majority leader John Thune, who has called Smith's phone subpoenas "Biden's Watergate," added the provision personally. "Leader Thune inserted that in the bill to provide real teeth to the prohibition on the Department of Justice targeting senators," Texas Senator Ted Cruz declared.

"I am furious that the Senate Minority and Majority Leaders chose to airdrop this provision into this bill at the eleventh hour," New Mexico Democratic Senator Martin Heinrich said in a statement. "This is precisely what's wrong with the Senate." In case you missed it, that's a slap at Senate minority leader Chuck Schumer, who presided over last-minute negotiations on the package but voted against it. Oregon Senator Ron Wyden, a privacy advocate, nonetheless slammed the provision as "very troubling" to Politico.

There are obviously other troubling provisions in this alleged compromise, which, remember, keeps the government open only until January. The good news is that it funds SNAP through next year—recipients don't have to worry about losing food benefits during another stalemate in at the beginning of 2026. Other measures touted as victories—furloughed workers getting back pay, some fired workers getting their jobs back—likely would have happened anyway. Senate Dems did get a promise from Thune to hold a stand-alone vote on restoring ACA subsidies, but there's no guarantee he'll do it; even if he does, it's unlikely to pass; and House Speaker Mike Johnson has already announced that he won't bring the measure up for a vote. So it's DOA.

Another problem with the cave-in was its timing, coming only days after Democrats won huge election victories in Virginia, New Jersey, California, Pennsylvania, and Georgia. Schumer is reportedly claiming he got the Democratic defectors to hold off until after the elections, to avoid depressing turnout (a sign Democratic leaders knew the cave-in would be unpopular with their base). He couldn't have asked them to take maybe another week, to avoid snubbing the Democratic activists who worked so hard on those election victories?

Meanwhile, Zeteo reports that Trump officials are celebrating the Democratic surrender, calling party leaders "losers" and "pussies," after Trump himself already admitted that the shutdown contributed to GOP losses last Tuesday.

The bill still has to pass the House. Is it possible outraged Democrats will be joined by some Republicans and reject the Senate GOP's self-protection? Or will House GOP leaders add a similar provision for their members—at least one, Pennsylvania Representative Mike Kelly, also had his phone metadata released to Smith. Anything is possible in Johnson's caucus circus. The bill could fail for other reasons, even though

Johnson claims he has the votes. We'll find out Wednesday, when House members return from their long vacation to vote.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the gentlewoman thinks that trying to stop people's healthcare premiums from doubling and tripling and quadrupling is political theater, but we don't. I don't have time to address all the BS coming from my colleagues across the Chamber, but it is clear this Republican leadership is not only failing to deliver on their promises but they are selling out at the expense of the basic needs of the American people.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

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

Mr. Speaker, here we are on September 19, House Republicans passed legislation which would have funded government through November 20. Here we are on November 12, and we are basically where we would have been had we just passed the bill that we passed in September.

What did we get for all of that? What happened over all these days? Well, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle were searching for a reason for voters to support them next November. They were searching for a cause.

We know this because there were intervening elections and a lot of rhetoric but no results. We are here right now, with Democrats having joined Republican Senators to send a bill over here to fund government through the end of January with three appropriations bills, which we worked through regular order, to keep spending relatively flat. It advances the priorities the American people sent us here to advance, to back up the President who is securing the border, which he was sent to Washington to do; to restore military to focusing on defending this Nation rather than advancing woke priorities, which the American people sent him here to do; for us to continue to work, to grow, and to build this economy after 4 years of being wrecked with reckless spending but also abhorrent policies. The American people are now saying: What on Earth were Democrats doing?

My Democrat colleagues' response is healthcare. That is the only default position they have is the default to healthcare. The fact is, it is because they broke the system so badly that they are now coming and asking us to have the Treasury print money to then give out in order to enrich insurance companies with massive subsidies. That is the actual fact.

The American people understand this and they recognize that they don't want insurance companies to be enriched, but they want to be able to go get the doctor of their choice. The

American people understand this and so do we.

We are here to open the government, and we are here to stand up for doctors and patients instead of insurance companies and big regulators. I support this legislation. I know my Republican colleagues do. The question really is: Will Democrats support this legislation, or will they wish to perpetuate the shutting down of government to enrich insurance companies?

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I don't think we ought to be lectured by somebody who, over the years, has been the king of government shutdowns and who worked for a United States Senator that pushed for a government shutdown to object to the Affordable Care Act.

I just want to make it clear to everybody: This is a Republican shutdown. They control the White House. They control the House. They control the Senate. This government shutdown is because they don't want to negotiate. It is their way or the highway. This is a Republican shutdown. They own it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), the distinguished ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, this bill, which they now call imperfect, contains the single most corrupt provision for legislative self-dealing that anyone in this Chamber today has ever voted on. It is such an egregiously corrupt act of legislator self-enrichment and plunder of the taxpayer that not only did every single House Democrat oppose it in the Rules Committee last night, but multiple Republicans were denouncing it, that is, before they were summoned into a side room and instructed to vote for it, which they all proceeded to do.

Now they are telling us: Vote for it today and they will repeal it maybe next week or maybe the week after that or maybe before Christmas. I have a solution. If Members don't like this corrupt provision, don't vote for it today. That will work.

This is a great bill, a great bill that is if you think eight Republican U.S. senators should have a right to collect at least \$1 million in a jackpot bonanza payoff from the taxpayers simply because they were subject to the exact same rules all other Americans were subject to and are subject to now. They don't propose to change those rules for anybody else, not for more than 300 million Americans, not for the Members of the House of Representatives, not for Governors or mayors but for themselves. They want to deal themselves a special legal privilege.

In this Republican class war, a Great Gatsby economy where President Trump has made more than \$3 billion since he reoccupied the White House, the Federal building which he has proceeded to demolish in large part while millions of Americans face losing their healthcare and their SNAP benefits. This provision is an affront to our taxpayers and to the rule of law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. RASKIN. It is an affront to everyone who believes that we, in public office, must be the servants of the people, not the masters of the people who get special, legal rights and privileges and multimillion-dollar payoffs, people who think that they have a right to better treatment than everybody else, like Ghislaine Maxwell in the prison camp where she gets room service, puppy time, and special gym privileges.

□ 1710

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this continuing resolution. I will not support a bill that will continue the Republicans' assault on Americans and their pocketbooks. At a time when Oregonians and Americans are already struggling with rising costs, this bill locks in devastating cuts to healthcare and drives up the cost, in many cases, significantly.

The assault on healthcare and the Republican shutdown more broadly are further proof that the first 10 months of this Trump administration have been chaotic, harmful, and completely out of touch with the needs of the American people. Donald Trump held an extravagant Great Gatsby party at Mar-a-Lago the night before SNAP benefits expired, while the administration and Republicans continue to ignore the needs of working families. That is not governing. They have abandoned their responsibility to bring down costs and grow the economy.

Mr. Speaker, this bill was already bad, but now they have added this corrupt, get-rich-quick scheme to give hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to Trump-aligned Senators. That is outrageous. Oregonians and Americans deserve better.

My colleagues should listen to their constituents, vote "no," and come back to the table and join us in the work to make healthcare affordable and accessible to all.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McDOWELL).

Mr. McDOWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we are in the process of ending the longest government shutdown in our Nation's history and to affirm that this Congress will get back to leading America into her next golden age.

Over 40 days, that is how long the government has been closed. For over 40 days, Democrats here in this body and in the Senate have chosen chaos over our country. They chose to shut the government down because politics demanded it, not policy.

The elites who dominate their party's decisionmaking are the ones least impacted by its decisions.

Were the far-left activists and Democrats here in this body the ones not getting paychecks? No, Mr. Speaker. That was the air traffic controllers, our troops, and our Capitol Police officers.

When these same people passed ObamaCare, were they the ones impacted by the law, or was it the middle-class teacher in North Carolina who could no longer keep their doctor? We all know the answer to that, Mr. Speaker.

Across the Nation, Federal workers are working two and three jobs just to stay afloat, all so Democrats could champion illegal aliens who exploit our compassion as they poison our communities with deadly fentanyl.

That is not governing. That was extortion of the American taxpayer. That ends today.

Today, we are in the process of finally reopening the government, returning to the business of the people, and further implementing the mandate our constituents sent us here to deliver on.

Democrats chose to have a month of political theater, but political shows don't do one thing to help make the costs of everyday items more affordable. It is time to govern and to focus on making America more affordable for the middle class.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this rule.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we are getting lectured on governance by a guy who is just coming off an 8-week paid vacation. Give me a break.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL), the next Governor of New Jersey.

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to a rule for a bill that does nothing to protect over 450,000 New Jerseyans who will see their healthcare premiums skyrocket.

I took my first oath to the Constitution when I was 18 and went to the Naval Academy. It is an oath to serve, to run toward the fight. I ran for Congress after I saw Washington Republicans attacking the Affordable Care Act.

I promised I would take on the status quo. I would fight the big fights because that is what people expect of their leaders. That is what people deserve from their leaders.

I am proud of the wins that I have delivered as the Representative for New Jersey's 11th District: capping the cost of insulin and prescription drugs for seniors, funding the Gateway Tunnel, the PACT Act for veterans, flood mitigation projects, and delivering for Picatinny Arsenal.

New Jersey has trusted me, and last week, they placed their trust in me again, electing me their 57th Governor. I ran on a similar promise: to take on anyone and stop at nothing to lower

costs and build opportunity for everyone.

This will be my last speech in this Chamber. I intend to submit my resignation next week and turn to protecting all of New Jersey.

My parting message to Jersey is: Thank you.

To my staff, thank you for your dedication to serving the 11th District of New Jersey.

To my colleagues, do not let this body become a ceremonial rubber stamp for an administration that takes food away from children—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from New Jersey.

Ms. SHERRILL.—and that rips healthcare away from people and takes food away from children.

To the country, stand strong. As we say in the Navy: Don't give up the ship.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. MAGAZINER).

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are back from their 54-day taxpayer-funded vacation. But don't get me wrong, they do know how to work hard. When billionaires wanted tax breaks, they moved mountains to make it happen. When Argentina needed a \$40 billion bailout to help Trump's buddy, they moved quickly to make it happen at the White House.

When working people need help, when millions of Americans are seeing their health insurance costs double and triple and Americans all across this country are feeling like they are going to have to go without health insurance for the first time in their lives because they can't afford it anymore and have to make that terrible decision about which of their family members they are going to cut off of their insurance, House Republicans are nowhere to be found.

When Donald Trump's stupid tariffs are raising the price of groceries and the cost of coffee is up 40 percent over the last year, House Republicans are silent. When working people need help, they are absent. Shameful.

They will work when billionaires need tax cuts, when Argentina needs a bailout, but when working people need relief, they go on a taxpayer-funded vacation. Shameful, Mr. Speaker.

Vote "no" on this budget. Do not cut the healthcare of the American people.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER).

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, the reason we know this is a Democratic shutdown is because of how angry they are that we are about to reopen the government, period. That is all you need to know.

JERRY NADLER said the shutdown is really "an extremist policy designed to appeal to an extremist base and hold the whole country hostage."

That is exactly what the Democrats have done over the last 43 days. They have held the American people hostage, trying to extract insane things, like free healthcare for illegal immigrants.

If they were serious about tackling the healthcare affordability crisis in this country, then they would address the fundamental problem with ObamaCare. Since ObamaCare took effect, healthcare premiums have risen by 96 percent and on the open market by 114 percent.

When I asked Leader JEFFRIES to sign on to the 1-year extension of the premium tax credit, he refused. He stuttered. He stammered. He couldn't answer a single question because this shutdown was never about healthcare. It was always about appeasing a far-left radical base.

CHUCK SCHUMER said: Every day gets better for us.

KATHERINE CLARK said: Of course, people will suffer. We want to use this as leverage.

It is an embarrassment to this country. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for inflicting this pain on the American people, taking away food stamps from 42 million Americans, defunding WIC, and not paying our troops, our Federal employees, and our air traffic controllers. It is a disgrace, and you should all hang your heads in shame.

Vote "yes" to pass the bill and reopen the government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Let me remind my colleagues, I fully recognize that there is a lot of pent-up anxiety, and emotions have been elevated somewhat, but please, in the interest of the decorum of this House, direct your comments to the Chair and do not engage in personalities toward the Senate and toward the President.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, let me just say that the gentleman from New York sounds as extreme as his voting record. Mr. Speaker, I say to the gentleman who just spoke, by supporting this bill, he is betraying 7,000 constituents in his district who rely on the ACA to afford their healthcare. Boy, I am glad he is not my Representative.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as the Representative of western New York, where so many people in my community, like others across the country, are already struggling to afford healthcare, I urge my colleagues to reject this disgraceful bill.

As an occupational therapist, I know exactly who these cuts will hurt. I have heard from so many who are desperate for a lifeline, like Iris, a mom in Buffalo, who is worried about how she will keep her kids' healthcare insurance; or Andy, a nursing home resident in Tonawanda, who relies on Medicaid to get the services he needs; or the kids at Bornhava, a special needs school where I provided therapy, who depend on early intervention services.

Donald Trump and congressional Republicans began their assault on the people of our country in the big, ugly bill.

This bill further devastates healthcare and leaves millions of Americans to pray they don't get sick. Shame on anyone who goes along with it. This country deserves better.

I will be voting "no," and I urge all my colleagues to do the same.

□ 1720

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, there is some big news, some breaking news in the last hour. I am proud to say that our newest colleague, Representative ADELITA GRIJALVA, just became the 218th signature on the Massie-Khanna discharge petition to compel the release of the Epstein files.

To all my Republican colleagues who refuse to sign on: Time is up, you need to figure out where you stand on this because you are about to go on record. Is your loyalty to Trump more important than going after pedophiles? Make no mistake, these files will come out. It is no longer a question of if, only when, and whether the White House chooses to stand with the survivors or throw them under the bus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. DEXTER).

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this rule and the underlying bill.

As a physician who spent 20 years saving lives, I did not come to Congress to let healthcare be decimated by Congress. I came to fight for my constituents who deserve to be able to see a doctor they trust, afford their medication, and keep their families healthy.

If House Republicans let the ACA tax credits expire, they are complicit in forcing Oregonians to make impossible choices, like whether to keep their insurance or put food on the table.

As a physician, I know what comes next. People go without. They go uninsured, they delay care, and they skip refills. They get sicker, and sometimes they end up in medical debt that is devastating.

The cost of living is already too damn high. Republicans are committed to cutting Americans' care. They patently rejected amendments to protect Americans, ignoring millions of American families who are desperate for relief.

I will be an absolute "no" on the rule and the underlying bill, and I refuse to give up on ensuring affordable healthcare for all.

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

The ranking member mentioned the discharge petition, and he is very proud that it has 218 signatures, but not that long ago today we had a unanimous consent request that would have moved that resolution along over to the Sen-

ate, and I believe the Democrats objected to it.

It seems more like a political stunt than it does that they actually wanted to have that resolution moved along because if they had not objected, it would have gone on its way, and they would have accomplished what they wanted to do.

I don't see their real desire to have the resolution passed. I see it more, like I said, as a political stunt, and it certainly is actually a moot point, given that the Oversight Committee is already releasing many of those files. As a matter of fact, I believe they have done tens of thousands of them, but I believe this morning they did another 20,000 files, so they are being released, and this all seems for naught.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, Jimmy Failla offered Democrats this pro tip: If you are going to call it the Republican shutdown, you are not supposed to get mad that it is ending.

Anyone who remembers their "Schoolhouse Rock" knows that once the House originates an appropriation, the Senate must either amend it or pass it. Now, the House did its job on September 19 with a simple appropriation that made no policy changes. It merely kept the government operating at current levels while we finished debating priorities.

Democrats deliberately blocked the Senate from acting, demanding \$1.5 trillion of new spending as a ransom. Finally, thank God, eight of them put country ahead of party and voted to end this madness.

Hearing the bitter recriminations from our leftist colleagues, it seems unlikely we will see much bipartisanship today, but with or without, we will reopen the government tonight and get back to addressing the challenges that confront our country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 11 minutes remaining on his side. There are 9 minutes remaining on the majority side.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am surprised the gentlewoman brought up the unanimous consent request, but I am glad she did because I want the RECORD to be clear. I didn't hear any objection on the floor. The Republican chair basically ruled it as an improper unanimous consent request, and so that is why it didn't move forward.

However, I do know this, because I am on the Rules Committee, and I do know the gentlewoman time and time and time again voted against releasing the Epstein files. I know my Republican friends are hoping that they don't have to go on record because they don't want to get Trump upset at them, but the bottom line is every single Republican will go on record, and you will have to make clear whether you are on the side of a pedophile or whether you are on the side of the victims.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this bill that allows health insurance premiums for 22 million American families to skyrocket and raises healthcare costs for everyone. Trump and his Republican cult of followers in Congress have unleashed a shameful crisis of cruelty and corruption on the American people.

First, they slash Medicaid by a trillion dollars, kicked 15 million Americans off of healthcare, set up the playboard for rural hospitals to shutter, all so that they could give \$7 trillion in permanent tax breaks to their billionaire buddies.

Then they refused to negotiate with Democrats to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits so that 22 million wouldn't have to choose between healthcare and rent. When we refused to go along with that, they caused this 45-day Republican shutdown, illegally refused to pay SNAP benefits for the hungry, and illegally canceled flights, throwing the country into chaos.

Trump and Republicans want to make Americans poorer and sicker, while Trump builds his gilded ballrooms, protects pedophiles, pardons those who buy his memecoins, and lets Americans starve. Shame on them. I am a "hell-no" on this bill.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the Senate's provision that allows Senators to make financial gain off illegal government surveillance.

Three things can be true at once, Mr. Speaker. The first truth is this: The shutdown has to end. The American people and countless Tennesseans I represent are suffering and experiencing real pain. This record-breaking Schumer Democratic shutdown was completely avoidable, and it was completely carried out for political purposes.

The second truth is that the last administration, led by Joe Biden and his autopen, unfairly surveilled conservatives and conservative Members of Congress. That included sitting United States Senators.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, the third thing I would note is that the American taxpayer has suffered enough because of the last administration. No one in this body should support allowing Senators to sue and collect from taxpayers because the FBI went rogue under President Biden.

Don't get me wrong. The overreach is more than troubling. It is unfathomable that the Department of Justice was weaponized in this way. I fully support holding those radical agents accountable and the ongoing investigations into their misdeeds, yet no elected officials should profit from

the political calculation of leftwing bureaucrats and judges.

Mr. Speaker, the folks I represent are still reeling from historic Bidenflation, the effects of the border crisis, and the regulatory agenda of the last administration. It is shameful to ask them to shoulder the burden of paying U.S. Senators a half million dollars or more for those misdeeds.

□ 1730

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I rise to call to my colleagues' attention that they are no longer claiming that this is a clean CR. The truth is that it is a dirty, filthy, and stealthy CR that has been contaminated with millions of dollars for people who have not earned it. They want to take it from the taxpayers of this country because they have concluded somehow that they have been harmed where no harm has been proven or brought to our attention.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that healthcare for all is important because we in Congress have the best healthcare in the world. Yet, people with the best healthcare in the world do not see fit for persons who need it and who are among the least, the last, and the lost to acquire healthcare, something that they have.

Healthcare is becoming wealthcare for too many people in this country. We need to extend the subsidies. We need to make sure that everybody who can get to a doctor gets care. This is not a poor country.

Mr. Speaker, I refuse to take a poison pill and let my colleagues tell me I will regurgitate it next week. The poison pill has killed the CR.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a clean CR! This is a dirty, corrupt Continuing Resolution that I cannot in good conscience support. This CR does nothing to address the Affordable Care Act subsidies whose expiration Republicans refused to address. This CR includes a shameful stealthy provision that would allow eight senators to sue the federal government for millions of dollars. To allow each of the eight Senators to concoct legislation to benefit themselves and sue the federal government for a \$1 million taxpayer funded giveaway would legitimize their blatant corruption in the so-called clean CR.

Millions of Americans deserve a permanent solution to the healthcare affordability crisis, much more than the billionaire contributors to campaigns who just received millions of dollars in tax breaks from their Republican accomplices. While the American people were working through the shutdown, President Trump partially demolished the White House and Senate Republicans negotiated a \$ million-dollar gift to some of their colleagues.

This shutdown need not have happened. Republicans control the House, Senate, and Presidency. They could have kept the government open with a negotiated settlement, or in the same way they placed Mr. Gorsuch on the Supreme Court, by using a majority rule rather than a 60-vote rule.

I cannot support this corrupt and dirty CR, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation too.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ).

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is great. It is great that Democrats have a line of people who are willing to fight for working-class Americans from coast to coast in this country.

Mr. Speaker, God forbid that we have a Member of the Republican caucus who stands up and actually wants to extend the Affordable Care Act so that people with cancer, need insulin, and all sorts of healthcare issues across this country have their health insurance protected and extended throughout 2026.

It is unconscionable that what we are debating right now is legislation that will give eight Members of the United States Senate over \$1 million apiece. We are robbing people of their food assistance and of their healthcare to pay for it.

How is this even on the floor? How can we, as Members of Congress—Republican or Democrat—vote to enrich ourselves by stealing from the American people? That is what this legislation does. In fact, Senator GRAHAM went before the press earlier today, and he said he was going to seek well over \$1 million from the American people from this.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot support it, and we cannot stand for it.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I would point out to some of my colleagues that the Democrat government shutdown stopped the SNAP benefits. If they were very concerned about making sure that people had their nutritional assistance, they wouldn't have shut down the government. That is what caused it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GILL).

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is great to hear from Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, the new leader of the Democratic Party. Unfortunately, we didn't get to hear from Mr. Zohran Mamdani, their other leader.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to vote this evening to reopen the Federal Government. For 40 days the Democrats shut our government down to pursue unrealistic policy proposals that they know the American people do not want.

Mr. Speaker, the American people do not want healthcare for illegal aliens. They do not want our tax dollars funding leftwing media outlets. They do not want to drive up our debt \$1.5 trillion as part of a short-term continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, the last 40 days have been nothing but pure political nihilism. I am glad this nightmare is over so we can get back to work on behalf of the American people.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me just say to the gentlewoman this Republican shutdown didn't need to happen. All they needed to do was extend ACA tax credits so the American people wouldn't get screwed on their health insurance bills.

I would also point out to her the President of the United States illegally withheld SNAP benefits. Two Federal judges, basically two court orders, backed us up on that. He is the first President ever in history to shut off food benefits to people during a shutdown. Shame on him.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, our country is at a moral crossroads. Just today, it comes out that billionaires are worth \$8 trillion. That is more than 50 percent of Americans combined.

What does the President do? He decides he doesn't have the money for the American people. He is going to starve the American people to give \$40 billion to the corrupt Libertarian leader in Argentina. Mr. Speaker, \$9 million would have fed the American people. How is that America first?

Then he says he doesn't care about the cab driver who is now paying \$2,600 per month in healthcare as opposed to \$44. He doesn't want to save the 20 million Americans who are going to face high premium increases. How is that America first?

Mr. Speaker, we need national health insurance in this country. We need to tax billionaires in this country. We need to fund SNAP in this country. We need to stop funding Argentina and corrupt foreign leaders.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to address the healthcare issues the Democrats continue to bring up. They act like this had anything to do with the premiums of everyone in the country. We are talking about the Affordable Care Act COVID-era subsidies. This is not what is affecting other people's premiums, other than those folks who qualify for those COVID-era premium subsidies. That is it. They continue to make it sound like this is responsible for every kind of increase that people are seeing.

The Affordable Care Act's original subsidies will remain in place. So that is the original subsidies, ensuring that millions still qualify for the income-based tax credit and capping out-of-pocket costs relative to income.

□ 1740

It is the COVID era. I can't say that enough. It is the COVID-era subsidies that are in question here, and premium increases are actually driven by multiple factors, including medical inflation, provider consolidation, and rising

drug costs. However to actually reduce premiums, that is what we must address. We must have comprehensive discussions about that, not just political theater and sound bites. We have to actually sit down and have those discussions, and that is what getting the government back open will do.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the ACA polls at 65 percent. Donald Trump is at 37 percent.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of every elder who can't afford their prescriptions and every parent who went to work hungry so their child could eat. In the United States of America, there is no lack of resource, only a deficit of empathy, political will, and courage.

At its best, government is a backstop, a compassionate steward of the public good. At its best, government catches people when they stumble at a moment of hardship. At its best, government does right by the people, all the people.

Struggle does not discriminate, Mr. Speaker. Hardship is not a character flaw and has zero to do with work ethic. Every single person is one diagnosis and one layoff away from hardship. Life can change in an instant.

What we are bearing witness to is not only a lack of political courage, but it is a fundamental betrayal of the people, incompetence and indifference to the suffering of our neighbors, the shame and the sham of it all.

Any Member of Congress who would vote to deny a child a meal or medication, it is child abuse and neglect. I ought to file a 51A on Republicans for that. Every person in this Chamber and every person in our country has lost a loved one to cancer, and yet Republicans would vote to deny people life-saving cancer treatment and research.

Republicans control the House, the Senate, and the White House, and with a majority they have chosen to enact harm to make people hungry, poorer, sicker, and less safe.

The shame and the sham of it all. You the people deserve better. We the people deserve better, and I won't stop fighting until you get it.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN).

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, yes, the Federal Government will officially reopen with the House vote today, but here is what won't happen. We won't protect the 22 million people paying more for the ACA or the 15 million people losing their healthcare outright due to Republican actions in the big, ugly law, nor will we stop the healthcare rate increases for everyone in this country.

We won't be restoring food assistance today for the millions of Americans who benefit from SNAP because House Republicans voted to cut the number one program that keeps kids and seniors out of poverty by over \$180 billion.

Nor will we be able today to roll back the tax cuts for billionaires and Republicans' GOP donors that they funded by gutting those healthcare and food programs.

I sure hope Republicans are tanned and rested after their 8-week paid vacation, because they are going to need it. Democrats are going to continue fighting every single day for people's healthcare and food benefits. We are going to be on Republicans day after day until we get it done.

Vote "no."

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. OLSZEWSKI).

Mr. OLSZEWSKI. Mr. Speaker, this funding deal is why Americans have lost faith in Congress. It does absolutely nothing to address the crushing cost of healthcare, in what amounts to a massive tax hike on working families.

It does absolutely nothing to stop President Trump from canceling the very funding we would provide, something he has already done again and again.

Here is what it does: It allows Senators to write themselves, and only themselves, million-dollar checks because their phone records were legally subpoenaed, checks paid for by American taxpayers.

It is corruption at a whole new level. With bribery and insider trading, someone breaks the law. Here, Congress is writing a law that protects and funds corruption. It is brazen and disgusting and an effort to legalize corruption. Anyone who votes for this CR is complicit in that corruption.

If government still belongs to the people and not the powerful, then we must reject this self-serving scam.

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

Mr. Speaker, I don't have enough time to rebut all the absurd claims made by the other side. Suddenly, they all have an opinion on healthcare. They had a decade to come up with a plan, and they came up with nothing.

I am glad they finally acknowledged that this is a dirty CR that shovels millions of dollars into the pockets of Republican politicians. They hate this bill so much that they are all going to vote for it.

They say that we shut the government down.

Really, Mr. Speaker?

The last time I checked, Republicans are in charge around here. We heard for months about their mandate. They control the House, the Senate, and the White House. They have a duty to keep the government open, and they failed.

They did not have the votes. They refused to negotiate with us because we wanted to help regular people instead of billionaires, and now they want to blame us for the consequences of their own actions.

What the hell is wrong with them?

Give me a frigging break.

America is the richest country in the history of the world. We are blessed with an abundance of so much. There should not be an affordability crisis. Every single person in this country should be able to have a good job, a living wage, affordable food and healthcare, and have a shot at a better future. That is what I am fighting for. That is what we are fighting for. That is how I want to make America great. That is the Democratic vision for what this country could be.

From a moral perspective and from a set of values, we believe it is immoral to have a system that gives so much to just a few billionaires by depriving so many of the basic things they need to live a good life. It is clear to me after this debate that Republicans do not share those same values.

I am going to fight like hell, and we are going to fight like hell because I believe in America. We believe in America, and we believe that the hopes and the dreams of the American people will prevail.

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

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

As we wrap up this debate, I want to take a moment to cut through the noise from our colleagues on the left. Instead of focusing on the legislation before us, they are resorting to fear tactics and tossing out false claims about what this shutdown is really about.

The CR would have kept the government open to continue and finish the appropriations process. Yet the Democrats refused and instead chose to shut down the government.

My colleague mentions values. Democrats claim that our values are different. Democratic Whip CLARK said: "Of course there will be families that are going to suffer . . . but it is one of the few leverage times we have."

So if those are the values they are talking about, I don't share those values.

Mr. Speaker, I won't make the American people suffer, whether it be their SNAP payments, whether it be keeping air traffic controllers paid, or whether it is paying our troops. Making the American people suffer are not the values that I share.

For the record, Republicans did not cause this shutdown, and we have not been on vacation. I have been splitting my time between D.C. and the District, as I mentioned before, meeting with constituents in both, meeting with Federal agencies, and hosting a tele-townhall. I know how hard my Republican colleagues have been working for their constituents and the American people.

It was the Democrats who shut down the government when they refused to support a clean CR that would have kept the lights on and protected critical services, and now it is the Democrats who continue to shift the blame.

Now, getting back to the issue at hand, let's talk about what this bill actually does.

H.R. 5371 restores the funding for SNAP and WIC. It reimburses the contingency reserves to make sure that programs remain stable and reliable. Actually, President Trump moved \$300 million of tariff revenue to fund WIC during the shutdown. Republicans are the ones protecting food security and not playing games with it.

This bill also delivers for our farmers and ranchers and for rural development. It invests in the communities that feed this country and keep the economy strong. It supports our troops and Federal workers. It ensures our servicemembers and their families have the support they need, and it honors the promises we have made to those who have served.

Yes, it reopens the government, restores stability, and resumes regular order.

So let's be honest about what a "yes" vote means. A "yes" vote is a vote for veterans care. A "yes" vote is a vote for SNAP and WIC. A "yes" vote is a vote for \$700,000 for a fire engine in Ranking Member MCGOVERN's district and \$1 million for the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development in Representative LEGER FERNANDEZ's district. A "yes" vote is for farmers. A "yes" vote is for our troops and for Federal workers, and, yes, it is for reopening the government.

A "no" vote is a vote against all of that, including the development of a wastewater treatment facility in Mr. NEGUSE's district, and \$1.5 million in watershed conservation in Representative CLARK's district. It is a vote against Federal workers. It is a vote against healthcare. It is a vote against feeding hungry children, and it is a vote against common sense.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 873 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5371) making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with the amendment specified in section 2 of this resolution. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 2. The amendment referred to in section 1 is as follows:

Page 217, beginning on line 6, strike section 213.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 213, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 283]

YEAS—216

Aderholt	Fleischmann	Luna
Alford	Flood	Luttrell
Allen	Fong	Mace
Amodei (NV)	Fox	Mackenzie
Arrington	Franklin, Scott	Malliotakis
Babin	Fry	Maloy
Bacon	Fulcher	Mann
Baird	Garbarino	Massie
Balderson	Gill (TX)	Mast
Barr	Gimenez	McClain
Barrett	Goldman (TX)	McClintock
Baumgartner	Gonzales, Tony	McCormick
Bean (FL)	Gooden	McDowell
Begich	Gosar	McGuire
Bentz	Graves	Messmer
Bergman	Greene (GA)	Miller (IL)
Bice	Griffith	Miller (OH)
Biggs (AZ)	Grothman	Miller (WV)
Biggs (SC)	Guest	Miller-Meeks
Bilirakis	Guthrie	Mills
Boebert	Hageman	Moolenaar
Bost	Hamadeh (AZ)	Moore (AL)
Brecheen	Haridopolos	Moore (NC)
Bresnahan	Harrigan	Moore (UT)
Buchanan	Harris (MD)	Moore (WV)
Burchett	Harris (NC)	Moran
Burlison	Harshbarger	Murphy
Calvert	Hern (OK)	Nehls
Cammack	Higgins (LA)	Newhouse
Carey	Hill (AR)	Norman
Carter (GA)	Hinson	Nunn (IA)
Carter (TX)	Houchin	Obernolte
Ciscomani	Hudson	Ogles
Cline	Huizenga	Owens
Cloud	Hunt	Palmer
Clyde	Hurd (CO)	Patronis
Cole	Issa	Perry
Collins	Jack	Pfluger
Comer	Jackson (TX)	Reschenthaler
Crane	James	Rogers (AL)
Crank	Johnson (LA)	Rogers (KY)
Crawford	Johnson (SD)	Rose
Crenshaw	Jordan	Rouzer
Davidson	Joyce (OH)	Roy
De La Cruz	Joyce (PA)	Rulli
DesJarlais	Kean	Rutherford
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (MS)	Salazar
Donalds	Kelly (PA)	Scalise
Downing	Kennedy (UT)	Schmidt
Dunn (FL)	Kiggans (VA)	Schweikert
Edwards	Kiley (CA)	Scott, Austin
Ellzey	Kim	Self
Emmer	Knott	Sessions
Estes	Kustoff	Shreve
Evans (CO)	LaHood	Simpson
Ezell	LaLota	Smith (MO)
Fallon	LaMalfa	Smith (NE)
Fedorchak	Langworthy	Smith (NJ)
Feenstra	Latta	Smucker
Fine	Lawler	Spartz
Finstad	Lee (FL)	Staubert
Fischbach	Letlow	Stefanik
Fitzgerald	Loudermilk	Steil
Fitzpatrick	Lucas	Steube

Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner (OH)

Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—213

Adams	Golden (ME)	Olszewski
Aguiar	Goldman (NY)	Omar
Amo	Gomez	Pallone
Ansari	Gonzalez, V.	Panetta
Auchincloss	Goodlander	Pappas
Balint	Gottheimer	Pelosi
Barragan	Gray	Perez
Beatty	Green, Al (TX)	Peters
Bell	Grijalva	Pettersen
Bera	Harder (CA)	Pingree
Beyer	Hayes	Pocan
Bishop	Himes	Pou
Bonamici	Horsford	Pressley
Boyle (PA)	Houlihan	Quigley
Brown	Hoyer	Ramirez
Brownley	Hoyle (OR)	Randall
Budzinski	Huffman	Raskin
Bynum	Ivey	Riley (NY)
Carbajal	Jackson (IL)	Rivas
Carson	Jacobs	Ross
Carter (LA)	Jayapal	Ruiz
Casar	Jeffries	Ryan
Case	Johnson (GA)	Salinas
Casten	Johnson (TX)	Sanchez
Castor (FL)	Kamlager-Dove	Scanlon
Castro (TX)	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Cherfilus-	Keating	Schneider
McCormick	Kelly (IL)	Scholten
Chu	Kennedy (NY)	Schrier
Cisneros	Khanna	Scott (VA)
Clark (MA)	Krishnamoorthi	Scott, David
Clarke (NY)	Landsman	Sewell
Cleaver	Larsen (WA)	Sherman
Clyburn	Larson (CT)	Sherrill
Cohen	Latimer	Simon
Conaway	Lee (NV)	Smith (WA)
Correa	Lee (PA)	Sorensen
Costa	Leger Fernandez	Soto
Courtney	Levin	Stansbury
Craig	Liccardo	Stanton
Crockett	Lieu	Stevens
Crow	Lofgren	Strickland
Cuellar	Lynch	Subramanyam
Davids (KS)	Magaziner	Suozi
Davis (IL)	Mannion	Swalwell
Davis (NC)	Matsui	Sykes
Dean (PA)	McBath	Takano
DeGette	McBride	Thanedar
DeLauro	McClain Delaney	Thompson (CA)
DelBene	McClellan	Thompson (MS)
Deluzio	McCollum	Titus
DeSaulnier	McDonald Rivet	Tlaib
Dexter	McGarvey	Tonko
Dingell	McGovern	Torres (CA)
Doggett	McIver	Torres (NY)
Elfreth	Meeks	Trahan
Escobar	Menendez	Tran
Espallat	Meng	Underwood
Evans (PA)	Mfume	Vargas
Fields	Min	Vasquez
Figures	Moore (WI)	Veasey
Fletcher	Morelle	Velazquez
Foster	Morrison	Vindman
Foushee	Moskowitz	Walkinshaw
Frankel, Lois	Moulton	Wasserman
Friedman	Mrvan	Schultz
Frost	Mullin	Waters
Garamendi	Nadler	Whitesides
Garcia (CA)	Neal	Williams (GA)
Garcia (IL)	Neguse	Wilson (FL)
Garcia (TX)	Norcross	
Gillen	Ocasio-Cortez	

NOT VOTING—4

McCaul	Onder	Watson
Meuser		Coleman

□ 1814

Messrs. SORENSEN, POCAN, and Ms. GILLEN changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 209, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 284]

AYES—213

Aderholt	Gill (TX)	Miller (WV)
Alford	Jimenez	Miller-Meeks
Allen	Goldman (TX)	Mills
Amodi (NV)	Gonzales, Tony	Moolenaar
Babin	Gooden	Moore (AL)
Bacon	Gosar	Moore (NC)
Baird	Graves	Moore (UT)
Balderson	Greene (GA)	Moore (WV)
Barr	Griffith	Moran
Barrett	Grothman	Murphy
Baumgartner	Guest	Nehls
Bean (FL)	Guthrie	Newhouse
Begich	Hageman	Norman
Bentz	Hamadeh (AZ)	Nunn (IA)
Bergman	Haridopolos	Obernolte
Bice	Harrigan	Ogles
Biggs (AZ)	Harris (MD)	Onder
Biggs (SC)	Harris (NC)	Owens
Billakis	Harshbarger	Palmer
Boebert	Hern (OK)	Patronis
Bost	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Brecheen	Hill (AR)	Pfleger
Bresnahan	Hinson	Reschenthaler
Buchanan	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Burchett	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Burlison	Huizenga	Rose
Calvert	Hunt	Rouzer
Cammack	Hurd (CO)	Roy
Carey	Issa	Rulli
Carter (GA)	Jack	Rutherford
Carter (TX)	Jackson (TX)	Salazar
Ciscomani	James	Scalise
Cline	Johnson (LA)	Schmidt
Cloud	Johnson (SD)	Scott, Austin
Clyde	Jordan	Self
Cole	Joyce (OH)	Sessions
Collins	Joyce (PA)	Shreve
Comer	Kean	Simpson
Crane	Kelly (MS)	Smith (MO)
Crank	Kelly (PA)	Smith (NE)
Crawford	Kiggans (VA)	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	Kiley (CA)	Smucker
Davidson	Kim	Spartz
De La Cruz	Knott	Stauber
DesJarlais	Kustoff	Stefanik
Diaz-Balart	LaHood	Steil
Donalds	LaLota	Steube
Downing	LaMalfa	Strong
Dunn (FL)	Langworthy	Stutzman
Edwards	Latta	Taylor
Ellzey	Lawler	Tenney
Emmer	Letlow	Thompson (PA)
Estes	Loudermilk	Tiffany
Evans (CO)	Lucas	Timmons
Ezell	Luna	Turner (OH)
Fallon	Luttrell	Valadao
Fedorchak	Mace	Van Drew
Feenstra	Mackenzie	Van Dуйne
Fine	Malliotakis	Van Orden
Finstad	Maloy	Wagner
Fischbach	Mann	Walberg
Fitzgerald	Massie	Weber (TX)
Fitzpatrick	Mast	Webster (FL)
Fleischmann	McClain	Westerman
Flood	McClintock	Wied
Fong	McCormick	Williams (TX)
Fox	McDowell	Wilson (SC)
Franklin, Scott	McGuire	Wittman
Fry	Messmer	Womack
Fulcher	Meuser	Yakym
Garbarino	Miller (OH)	Zinke

NOES—209

Adams	Bell	Brownley
Aguilar	Bera	Budzinski
Amo	Beyer	Bynum
Ansari	Bishop	Carbajal
Balint	Bonamici	Carson
Barragan	Boyle (PA)	Carter (LA)
Beatty	Brown	Casars

Case	Hoyle (OR)	Pettersen
Casten	Huffman	Pingree
Castor (FL)	Ivey	Pocan
Castro (TX)	Jackson (IL)	Pou
Cherfilus-	Jacobs	Pressley
McCormick	Jayapal	Quigley
Chu	Jeffries	Ramirez
Cisneros	Johnson (GA)	Randall
Clark (MA)	Johnson (TX)	Raskin
Clarke (NY)	Kamlaager-Dove	Riley (NY)
Cleaver	Kaptur	Rivas
Clyburn	Keating	Ross
Cohen	Kelly (IL)	Ruiz
Conaway	Kennedy (NY)	Ryan
Correa	Khanna	Salinas
Costa	Krishnamoorthi	Sánchez
Courtney	Landsman	Scanlon
Craig	Larsen (WA)	Schakowsky
Crockett	Larson (CT)	Schneider
Crow	Latimer	Scholten
Cuellar	Lee (NV)	Schrier
Davids (KS)	Lee (PA)	Scott (VA)
Davis (IL)	Leger Fernandez	Scott, David
Davis (NC)	Levin	Sewell
Dean (PA)	Liccardo	Sherman
DeGette	Lieu	Sherrill
DeLauro	Lofgren	Simon
DelBene	Lynch	Smith (WA)
Deluzio	Magaziner	Sorensen
DeSaulnier	Mannion	Soto
Dexter	Matsui	Stansbury
Dingell	McBath	Stanton
Doggett	McBride	Stevens
Elfreth	McClain Delaney	Strickland
Escobar	McClellan	Subramanyam
Espallat	McCollum	Suozi
Evans (PA)	McDonald Rivet	Swalwell
Fields	McGarvey	Sykes
Figures	McGovern	Takano
Fletcher	McIver	Thanedar
Foster	Meeks	Thompson (CA)
Foushee	Menendez	Thompson (MS)
Frankel, Lois	Meng	Titus
Friedman	Mfume	Tlaib
Garamendi	Min	Tokuda
Garcia (CA)	Moore (WI)	Tonko
Garcia (IL)	Morelle	Torres (CA)
Garcia (TX)	Morrison	Torres (NY)
Gillen	Moskowitz	Trahan
Golden (ME)	Moulton	Tran
Goldman (NY)	Mrvan	Underwood
Gomez	Mullin	Vargas
Gonzalez, V.	Nadler	Vasquez
Goodlander	Neal	Veasey
Gottheimer	Neguse	Velázquez
Gray	Norcross	Vindman
Green, Al (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	Walkinshaw
Grijalva	Omar	Wasserman
Harder (CA)	Pallone	Schultz
Hayes	Panetta	Waters
Himes	Pappas	Whitesides
Horsford	Pelosi	Wilson (FL)
Houlahan	Perez	
Hoyer	Peters	

NOT VOTING—11

Arrington	Lee (FL)	Schweikert
Auchincloss	McCaul	Watson Coleman
Frost	Miller (IL)	Williams (GA)
Kennedy (UT)	Olsewski	

□ 1821

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I seek recognition to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas, on October 27, 2025, Representative CHUY GARCÍA filed nominating petitions to be on the Democratic primary ballot in March 2026;

Whereas, on November 5, 2025, on the last day of filing, Representative GARCÍA's chief of staff, Patty Garcia, submitted her own paperwork to enter the Democratic primary;

Whereas, on November 6, after the filing deadline, Representative GARCÍA confirmed that he would not be seeking another term in 2026 and would be withdrawing his nominating petitions;

Whereas, Representative GARCÍA's chief of staff was the only Democrat who filed to run in the primary at the direction of Representative GARCÍA, undermining the process of a free and fair election;

Whereas, Representative GARCÍA's actions are beneath the dignity of his office and incompatible with the spirit of the Constitution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives disapproves of the behavior of the Representative from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MORAN). Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentlewoman from Washington will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at a time designated for consideration of the resolution.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2026

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 873, I call up the bill (H.R. 5371) making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. References.
Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.
Sec. 5. Statement of appropriations.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

Title I—Agricultural Programs

Title II—Farm Production and Conservation Programs

Title III—Rural Development Programs

Title IV—Domestic Food Programs

Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs

Title VI—Related Agency and Food and Drug Administration

Title VII—General Provisions

DIVISION C—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

Title I—Legislative Branch

Title II—General Provisions

DIVISION D—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

Title I—Department of Defense

Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs

Title III—Related Agencies

Title IV—General Provisions

DIVISION E—EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

DIVISION F—HEALTH EXTENDERS

Title I—Public Health Extenders

Title II—Medicare

Title III—Human Services

Title IV—Medicaid

Title V—Food and Drug Administration

Title VI—No Surprises Act Implementation

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS EXTENDERS

Title I—Health Care Matters

Title II—Benefits

Title III—Housing

Title IV—Other Matters

DIVISION H—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

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

SEC. 4. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this Act, printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record on or about November 9, 2025, and submitted by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions B through D of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2025 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2025, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (division A of Public Law 119–4), except sections 1110, 1113, and 1114; the proviso in paragraph (4) of section 1602; and sections 1708 and 1808; and except section 540 of division C, and sections 110 and 112 of division D of Public Law 118–42, as continued in effect by section 1101 of division A of Public Law 119–4; and except section 7069(b) of division F of

Public Law 118–47, as continued in effect by section 1101 of division A of Public Law 119–4.

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for:

(1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2025 or prior years;

(2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2025 funds; or

(3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P–1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R–1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2025.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2025.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this Act.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this Act.

(2) The enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2026 without any provision for such project or activity.

(3) January 30, 2026.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this Act shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this Act may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code, but nothing in this Act may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2026 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this Act that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This Act shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of

that permitted in the Act shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in an appropriations Act specified in section 101, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2025 but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2025, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. (a)(1) For each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, each provision of law designating each such amount as an emergency requirement pursuant to such section shall not apply.

(2) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 in the following provisions of law are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2026 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives: section 11206(4) of division A of Public Law 119–4 and 7068(b) of division F of Public Law 118–47, as continued in effect by section 1101 of division A of Public Law 119–4.

(b) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget.

(c) Each amount incorporated by reference in this Act that was previously designated in division B of Public Law 117–159, division J of Public Law 117–58, or in section 443(b) of division G of Public Law 117–328 by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget shall continue to be treated as an amount specified in section 103(b) of division A of Public Law 118–5.

SEC. 115. (a) Rescissions or cancellations of discretionary budget authority that continue pursuant to section 101 in Treasury Appropriations Fund Symbols (TAFS)—

(1) to which other appropriations are not provided by this Act, but for which there is a current applicable TAFS that does receive an appropriation in this Act; or

(2) which are no-year TAFS and receive other appropriations in this Act, may be continued instead by reducing the rate for operations otherwise provided by section 101 for such current applicable TAFS, as long as doing so does not impinge on the final funding prerogatives of the Congress.

(b) Rescissions or cancellations described in subsection (a) shall continue in an amount equal to the lesser of—

(1) the amount specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act; or

(2) the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2025, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101 of this Act.

(c) No later than December 5, 2025, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a comprehensive list of the rescissions or cancellations that will continue pursuant to section 101: Provided, That the information in such comprehensive list shall be periodically updated to reflect any subsequent changes in the amount of balances available, as of October 1, 2025, from the funds specified for rescission or cancellation in the applicable appropriations Act referenced in section 101, and such updates shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate upon request.

SEC. 116. Notwithstanding section 106(1), amounts made available in divisions A through D of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026 for personnel pay, allowances, and benefits in each department and agency shall be available for payments pursuant to subsection (c) of section 1341 of title 31, United States Code and such payments shall be made.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding section 106(1), all obligations incurred and in anticipation of the appropriations made and authority granted by divisions A through D of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026 for the purposes of maintaining the essential level of activity to protect life and property and bringing about orderly termination of Government function, and for purposes as otherwise authorized by law, are hereby ratified and approved if otherwise in accord with the provisions of divisions A through D of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026.

SEC. 118. (a) If a State (or another Federal grantee) used State funds (or the grantee's non-Federal funds) to continue carrying out a Federal program or furloughed State employees (or the grantee's employees) whose compensation is advanced or reimbursed in whole or in part by the Federal Government—

(1) such furloughed employees shall be compensated at their standard rate of compensation for such period;

(2) the State (or such other grantee) shall be reimbursed for expenses that would have been paid by the Federal Government during such period had appropriations been available, including the cost of compensating such furloughed employees, together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code; and

(3) the State (or such other grantee) may use funds available to the State (or the grantee) under such Federal program to reimburse such State (or the grantee), together with interest thereon calculated under section 6503(d) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term “State” and the term “grantee” shall have the

meaning as such term is defined under the applicable Federal program under subsection (a). In addition, “to continue carrying out a Federal program” means the continued performance by a State or other Federal grantee, during the period of a lapse in appropriations, of a Federal program that the State or such other grantee had been carrying out prior to the period of the lapse in appropriations.

(c) Notwithstanding section 106, the authority under this section applies with respect to any period in fiscal year 2026 (not limited to periods beginning or ending after the date of the enactment of this Act) during which there occurs a lapse in appropriations with respect to any department or agency of the Federal Government which, but for such lapse in appropriations, would have paid, or made reimbursement relating to, any of the expenses referred to in this section with respect to the program involved. Payments and reimbursements under this authority shall be made only to the extent and in amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts, including divisions A through D of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026.

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding section 106(1), for the purposes of divisions A through D of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026, the time covered by such divisions shall be considered to have begun on October 1, 2025.

SEC. 120. (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding section 106(1), during the period between the date of enactment of this Act and the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act, no federal funds may be used to initiate, carry out, implement, or otherwise notice a reduction in force to reduce the number of employees within any department, agency, or office of the Federal Government.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall apply to all civilian positions, whether permanent, temporary, full-time, part-time, or intermittent, and without regard to the source of funding for such positions.

(c) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(1) voluntary separations or retirements;

(2) actions necessary to comply with a court order; or

(3) actions taken, beginning only on the first day of a lapse in appropriations, necessary to implement or maintain an orderly shutdown of government operations.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the term “reduction in force” means actions taken by an agency pursuant to section 3501 through 3504 of title 5, United States Code or section 3595 of such title, or any similar reduction of positions at any department, agency, or office of the Federal Government, unless such reduction has been provided for in this Act.

(e) Notwithstanding section 106(1), any reduction in force proposed, noticed, initiated, executed, implemented, or otherwise taken by an Executive Agency between October 1, 2025, and the date of enactment, shall have no force or effect.

(1) Any employee who received notice of being subject to such a reduction in force shall have that notice rescinded and be returned to employment status as of September 30, 2025, without interruption. Such employees shall receive all pay to which they otherwise would have been entitled in the absence of receiving such notice, including backpay in accordance with section 116 of this Act.

(2) Within 5 days of date of enactment of this Act, each Federal agency shall send notice to all affected employees and the chairs and ranking members of the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives of the withdrawal of the reduction in force notice and the affected employee's reinstatement, if applicable.

(3) Notices must include reinstatement date and the amount of back pay determined in paragraph (1), if applicable.

SEC. 121. Section 8302(b) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 3851a(b)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “October 1, 2023”.

SEC. 122. (a) Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Justice—United States Marshals Service—Salaries and Expenses” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain program operations.

(b) In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, for “Department of Justice—United States Marshals Service—Salaries and Expenses”, there is appropriated \$30,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until September 30, 2027, to carry out protective operations.

SEC. 123. Any expiration date established by section 235(b) of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (18 U.S.C. 3551 note; Public Law 98–473; 98 Stat. 2032), as such section relates to chapter 311 of title 18, United States Code, and the United States Parole Commission, shall not apply from October 1, 2025, through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

SEC. 124. (a) 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.

(b)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), this section shall become effective immediately upon enactment of this Act.

(2) If this Act is enacted after September 30, 2025, this section shall be applied as if it were in effect on September 30, 2025.

SEC. 125. Section 3014(a) of title 18, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”: Provided, That notwithstanding section 119, this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act and shall not apply retroactively.

SEC. 126. During the period covered this Act, section 1930(a)(6)(B)(i) of title 28, United States Code, shall be applied as if “During the 5-year period” were struck.

SEC. 127. Notwithstanding section 101, the first proviso in each of sections 8092 and 8096 of title VIII of division A of Public Law 118–47 shall be applied by substituting “advances” for “reimbursements”.

SEC. 128. Notwithstanding sections 102 and 104, amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Defense for “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force” shall be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary for the E-7 Wedgetail program, in an amount not to exceed \$199,676,000, only for the purpose of continued rapid prototyping activities to maintain program schedule and transition to production for the E-7 Wedgetail program.

SEC. 129. Of the unobligated balance of funds available to the Department of Defense for the E-7 program under the heading “Aircraft Procurement, Air Force” in Public Law 119–4, \$200,000,000 is hereby transferred to and merged with amounts available for the E-7 program under the heading “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force” only for the purpose of continued rapid prototyping activities to maintain program schedule and transition to production for the E-7 Wedgetail program.

SEC. 130. Section 717(a) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4564(a)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 131. Notwithstanding sections 102 and 104, amounts made available by section 101 of

this Act to the Department of Defense for “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to fund completion of prior year shipbuilding programs for the following programs:

(1) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2013/2026: Carrier Replacement Program, \$150,000,000;

(2) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2016/2026: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$121,538,000;

(3) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2016/2026: DDG 51 Program, \$14,892,000;

(4) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2017/2026: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$99,116,000;

(5) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2017/2026: DDG 51 Program, \$62,365,000;

(6) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2017/2026: LHA Replacement Program, \$93,603,000;

(7) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2018/2026: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$289,761,000;

(8) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2018/2026: DDG 51 Program, \$104,238,000;

(9) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2019/2026: T-AO Fleet Oiler Program, \$15,400,000;

(10) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2020/2026: T-AO Fleet Oiler Program, \$48,260,000;

(11) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2022/2026: T-AO Fleet Oiler Program, \$19,650,000;

(12) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2022/2026: Expeditionary Sea Base Program, \$30,000,000;

(13) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2023/2026: T-AO Fleet Oiler Program, \$6,530,000; and

(14) Under the heading “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, 2024/2026: T-AO Fleet Oiler Program, \$6,200,000.

SEC. 132. Notwithstanding sections 102 and 104, the Secretary of Defense is authorized to use amounts otherwise appropriated for such purposes to reimburse the Government of Palau for land acquisition costs for defense sites in Palau.

SEC. 133. During the period covered by this Act, section 103(f)(4)(A) of Public Law 108–361 (the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act) shall be applied by substituting “\$32,600,000” for “\$30,000,000”.

SEC. 134. (a) Amounts made available by section 101 in the first proviso under the heading “Department of Energy—Atomic Energy Defense Activities—National Nuclear Security Administration—Weapons Activities” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain current operations for the safe, secure transport of nuclear weapons.

(b) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 3 days after each use of the authority provided in subsection (a).

SEC. 135. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter preceding the first proviso under the heading “Office of Personnel Management—Salaries and Expenses” in title V of division B of Public Law 118–47 shall be applied by substituting “\$197,446,000” for “\$219,076,000”, and the second proviso under such heading in such title of such division of such Act shall be applied by substituting “\$214,605,000” for “\$192,975,000”.

SEC. 136. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds made available under the heading “District of Columbia—District of Columbia Funds” for such programs and activities under the District of Columbia Appropria-

tions Act, 2024 (title IV of division B of Public Law 118–47) at the rate set forth in the Fiscal Year 2026 Local Budget Act of 2025 (D.C. Law 26–51), as modified as of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 137. Notwithstanding section 101, paragraph (1) under the heading “Department of the Treasury—Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses” in title I of division B of Public Law 118–47 shall be applied by substituting “\$1,350,000” for “\$350,000”: Provided, That such amounts may be obligated in the account and budget structure set forth in the fiscal year 2026 President’s Budget, submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, and accompanying justification materials.

SEC. 138. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Small Business Administration—Business Loans Program Account” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to accommodate increased demand for commitments for general business loans authorized under paragraphs (1) through (35) of section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)), for guarantees of trust certificates authorized by section 5(g) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 634(g)), for commitments to guarantee loans under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697), and for commitments to guarantee loans for debentures under section 303(b) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 683(b)).

SEC. 139. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of the Treasury—Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence—Salaries and Expenses” at a rate for operations of \$237,662,000.

SEC. 140. (a) Notwithstanding section 101, section 1605 of title VI of division A of Public Law 119–4 shall be applied through the end of the last applicable pay period that commences by the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act by substituting “the end of the last applicable pay period that commences in calendar year 2025” for “the date specified in section 1106 of this Act”.

(b) Notwithstanding section 101, section 747 of title VII of division B of Public Law 118–47 shall be applied through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act by—

(1) substituting “2025” for “2023” each place it appears;

(2) substituting “2026” for “2024” each place it appears;

(3) substituting “2027” for “2025”; and

(4) substituting “section 747 of division B of Public Law 118–47, as continued in effect and modified by section 1605 of title VI of division A of Public Law 119–4, as in effect on September 30, 2025” for “section 747 of division E of Public Law 117–328” each place it appears.

(c) Subsection (b) shall not take effect until the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

SEC. 141. Section 1(b) of Public Law 117–25 (135 Stat. 297; 136 Stat. 2133; 136 Stat. 5984; 138 Stat. 1771; 139 Stat. 46) shall be applied in each of paragraphs (3) and (4) by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 142. Notwithstanding section 101, title V of division B of Public Law 118–47 shall be applied as though the heading “Commodity Futures Trading Commission” and the appropriation language thereunder, as it appeared under the heading “Independent Agencies” in title VI of division B of Public Law 118–42, appeared in title V of division B of Public Law 118–47.

SEC. 143. In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101 for “The Judiciary—Supreme Court of the United States—Salaries and Expenses”, there is appropriated \$28,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended, for the protection of the Supreme Court Justices, including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344, to be expended as the Chief Justice may approve.

SEC. 144. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for “The Judiciary—Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services Defender Services” at a rate for operations of \$1,564,373,000: Provided, That such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to make payments, including to panel attorneys and related service providers, due under sections 3006A and 3599(g) of title 18, United States Code.

SEC. 145. Section 210G(i) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124n(i)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 146. Section 225(e) of division A of Public Law 116–6 (49 U.S.C. 44901 note) shall be applied by substituting “fiscal year 2019 through the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026” for “fiscal years 2019 through 2025”.

SEC. 147. Amounts made available by section 101 to the Department of Homeland Security under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to carry out response and recovery activities under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

SEC. 148. Section 227(a) of the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1525(a)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 149. Section 111(a) of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1510(a)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 150. Section 2220A(s)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 665g(s)(1)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

SEC. 151. During the period covered by this Act, section 1701 of title VII of division B of Public Law 117–43, as amended, shall be applied by substituting “calendar years 2021 through 2026” for “2021 or 2022 or 2023 or 2024” each place it appears.

SEC. 152. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of the Interior—Department-Wide Programs—Wildland Fire Management” and “Department of Agriculture—Forest Service—Wildland Fire Management” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary for wildfire suppression activities.

SEC. 153. (a) In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Services” at a rate for operations of \$72,265,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2025 and 2026, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

(b) In addition to amounts otherwise provided by section 101, amounts are provided for “Department of Health and Human Services—Indian Health Service—Indian Health Facilities” at a rate for operations of \$8,050,000, for an additional amount for costs of staffing and operating facilities that were opened, renovated, or expanded in fiscal years 2025 and 2026, and such amounts may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to staff and operate such facilities.

SEC. 154. Of the amounts made available in the third paragraph under the heading “Environmental Protection Agency—State and Tribal Assistance Grants” in the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division N of Public Law 117–328), up to \$54,000,000 shall be available for technical assistance and grants under section 1442(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–1(b)) in areas where the President declared an emergency in August

of fiscal year 2022 pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): Provided, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously 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 section 1(e) of H. Res. 1151 (117th Congress), as engrossed in the House of Representatives on June 8, 2022, are designated 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.

SEC. 155. Notwithstanding section 101, the matter under the heading “Department of Health and Human Services—Administration for Children and Families—Children and Families Services Programs” in title II of division D of Public Law 118-47 shall be applied by adding the following after the second proviso: “Provided further, That for purposes of section 640(a)(2)(B)(v) of such Act, the base grant for each of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands shall be \$8,000,000, and shall be considered equal to the amount provided for base grants for such jurisdictions under such Act for the prior fiscal year.”.

SEC. 156. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, there is appropriated—

(1) For payment to Ashley Paige Turner, heir of Sylvester Turner, late a Representative from the State of Texas, \$174,000.

(2) For payment to Ramona Grijalva, widow of Raúl M. Grijalva, late a Representative from the State of Arizona, \$174,000.

(3) For payment to Catherine M. Smith, widow of Gerald E. Connolly, late a Representative from the Commonwealth of Virginia, \$174,000.

SEC. 157. In addition to amounts otherwise made available for “Capitol Police—United States Capitol Police Mutual Aid Reimbursements”, there is appropriated \$30,000,000, for an additional amount for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended, for reimbursements for mutual aid and related training provided under the agreements described in section 7302 of Public Law 108-458: Provided, That amounts provided by this section shall be subject to the same authorities and conditions as if such amounts were provided by title I of division C of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026: Provided further, That obligation of the funds made available in this section in this Act shall be subject to notification to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Committee on House Administration of the amount and purpose of the expense within 15 days of obligation.

SEC. 158. Section 1424(a) of the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C. 9624(a)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act”.

SEC. 159. The fifth and sixth provisos under the heading “Millennium Challenge Corporation” in title III of division F of Public Law 118-47 shall be amended by striking “December 31, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2026” each place it appears.

SEC. 160. Section 562(c) of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Act, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.), is further amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end:

“(13) CAPITAL INCREASE.—

“(A) SUBSCRIPTION AUTHORIZED.—

“(i) The United States Governor of the Bank may subscribe on behalf of the United States up to 40,000 additional shares of the paid-in capital stock of the Bank.

“(ii) Any subscription by the United States to additional paid-in capital stock of the Bank shall be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

“(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In order to pay for the increase in the United States subscription to the Bank under paragraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated, without fiscal year limitation, \$437,457,804, for payment by the Secretary of the Treasury.”.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding section 106, during fiscal year 2026, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may use the unobligated balances of amounts made available in prior fiscal years in paragraphs (2), (3), and (8) under the heading “Public and Indian Housing—Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” to support additional allocations under subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) and subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of such heading to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as the result of insufficient funding in the calendar year 2025 funding cycle: Provided, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are 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.

SEC. 162. Amounts made available by section 101 for “Department of Transportation—Office of the Secretary—Payments to Air Carriers” may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to maintain Essential Air Service program operations.

SEC. 163. Section 414(d) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 31100 note) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for “September 30, 2025”.

This division may be cited as the “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2026”.

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

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, \$46,361,000 of which not to exceed \$7,000,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary, of which \$500,000 shall be for the establishment of a Seafood Industry Liaison; not to exceed \$1,700,000 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 \$5,250,000 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 \$18,721,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$17,015,000 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 \$3,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations and Intergovernmental Affairs to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed \$5,000,000 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, \$29,500,000, 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, \$2,425,000 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, \$14,500,000.

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, \$85,000,000, of which

not less than \$60,032,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$5,867,000.

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, \$30,000,000.

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, \$15,000,000, 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.), \$1,619,000, 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, \$24,000,000.

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.), \$103,000,000, 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, \$185,000,000, 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, \$1,793,063,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Agricultural Research Service Salaries and Expenses" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$500,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,800,000, except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$1,100,000 each, and except for four buildings to be constructed at a cost not to exceed \$5,000,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$500,000, whichever is greater: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for entering into lease agreements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the lease shall be that any facility shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the non-Federal entity and shall be removed upon the expiration or termination of the lease agreement: Provided further, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: Provided further, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that

upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: Provided further, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law: 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 funding levels, staffing levels, and hiring plans in fiscal year 2026 for each research unit: Provided further, That the Secretary shall include in the department's fiscal year 2027 budget request estimates for funding levels, staffing levels, and hiring plans for each research unit: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the Experienced Services Program at the Agricultural Research Service (16 U.S.C. 3851).

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, \$60,650,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$57,650,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and of which, in addition to amounts otherwise available, \$3,000,000 shall be for construction and facilities improvements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, \$1,075,810,000, 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 explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which \$551,060,000 shall remain available until expended and of which \$7,000,000 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 "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated 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, \$561,100,000 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, Extension Activities" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which \$33,500,000 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, \$40,100,000, 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 explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which \$8,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027: 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), \$1,157,534,000 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 explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), of which \$594,551,000 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 "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated 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, \$500,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, \$211,367,000, of which \$6,000,000 shall be available for the purposes of section 12306 of Public Law 113-79, and of which \$1,000,000 shall be available for the purposes of section 779 of division A of Public Law 117-103: Provided, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$13,750,000, to remain available until expended, shall be to carry out section 12513 of Public Law 115-334, of which \$11,250,000 shall be for dairy business innovation initiatives established in Public Law 116-6 and the Secretary shall take measures to ensure an equal distribution of funds between these three regional innovation initiatives: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701), except for the cost of activities relating to the development or maintenance of grain standards under the United States Grain Standards Act, 7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$62,596,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year

for administrative expenses: Provided, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME,
AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a et seq.); (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$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)), \$500,000.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING
SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$55,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: Provided, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD
SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, \$1,117,000: Provided, That funds made available by this Act to an agency in the Food Safety mission area for salaries and expenses are available to fund up to one administrative support staff for the Office.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed \$10,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$1,215,200,000; 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, \$167,633,000, 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, \$1,125,000,000, 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 in this or any other Act, including prior year Acts, 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 wellhead or groundwater protection activities under section 1240O of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2), \$7,500,000, 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.), to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: \$3,500,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and \$2,580,000,000 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; \$32,766,000 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, \$60,000,000: 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, \$850,000,000, which shall be for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the table titled “Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), to remain available until September 30, 2027, of which \$34,625,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts specified for this account in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That 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, \$50,000,000, 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 “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That for funds provided by this Act or any other prior Act, the limitation regarding the size of the watershed or subwatershed exceeding two hundred and fifty thousand acres in which such activities can be undertaken shall only apply for activities undertaken for the primary purpose of flood prevention (including structural and land treatment measures): Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, \$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, \$3,000,000 is provided.

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11): Provided, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business: Provided further, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate in writing 15 days prior to the obligation, commitment, or transfer 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 co-

operative agreements; \$312,000,000: 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, including strategies to expand and sustain access to maternal health care services, 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 authorized 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 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, \$2,125,000; 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), \$6,000,000, 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. 1490a) 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 hous-

ing 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, \$30,000,000, 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 seventh 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, \$27,000,000, 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, \$677,160,846 to remain available until expended, of which \$659,160,846 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That \$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 or that were 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: Provided further, That no amounts may be made available pursuant to the fifth 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, \$50,575,000, to remain available until expended, of which no less than \$100,000 shall be made available for one or more qualified state technology council to promote private-sector economic development in the bio-sciences: Provided, 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, \$21,000,000 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), \$9,000,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$2,495,000 as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which \$250,000 shall be available through June 30, 2026, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which \$499,000 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), \$20,000,000: Provided, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program; \$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; \$8,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 210A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946; and \$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), \$17,000,000.

For the cost of loans and grants, \$4,000,000 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, \$50,000, 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, \$445,864,564 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, of which \$1,000,000 shall be to provide subgrants to eligible individuals for the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individually owned household decentralized waste water systems: Provided further, That \$7,000,000 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 \$60,000,000 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 \$10,000,000 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 \$250,488,564 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, of which \$110,488,564 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided 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 preceding 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, or that are specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided 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, \$910,000,000; 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., \$40,767,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$10,767,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That \$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.), \$50,750,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$750,000 shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified for this account in the table titled “Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): Provided, That the Secretary may award grants described in section 601(a) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended (7 U.S.C. 950bb(a)) for the purposes of carrying out such pilot program: Provided further, That the cost of direct loans shall be defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That at least 90 percent of the households to be served by a project receiving a loan or grant under the pilot program shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to broadband: Provided further, That for purposes of such pilot program, a rural area without sufficient access to broadband shall be defined as twenty-five megabits per second downstream and three megabits per second upstream: Provided further, That to the extent possible, projects receiving funds provided under the pilot program must build out service to at least one hundred megabits per second downstream, and twenty megabits per second upstream: Provided further, That an entity to which a loan or grant is made under the pilot program shall not use the loan or grant to overbuild or duplicate broadband service in a service area by any entity that has received a broadband loan from the Rural Utilities Service unless such service is not provided sufficient access to broadband at the minimum service threshold: Provided further, That not more than four percent of the funds made available in this paragraph can be used for administrative costs to carry out the pilot program and up to three percent of funds made available in this paragraph may be available for technical assistance and pre-development planning activities to support the most rural communities: Provided further, That the Rural Utilities Service is directed to expedite program delivery methods that would implement this paragraph: Provided further, That for purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary shall adhere to the notice, reporting and service area assessment requirements set forth in section 701 of the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 950cc).

In addition, \$17,000,000, 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; \$37,841,674,000 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, \$18,691,638 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 Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)): Provided further, That notwithstanding section 18(g)(3)(C) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)(3)(c)), the total grant amount provided to a farm to school grant recipient in fiscal year 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, \$4,378,000 shall be available for food safety education including activities that support sections 17 and 21 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786, 1790) and to support the safe distribution of USDA Foods, as defined in 7 CFR 250.2: Provided further, That of the total amount available, \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out activities authorized under subsections (a)(2) and (e)(2) of section 21 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769b-1(a)(2) and (e)(2)): Provided further, That section 26(d) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769g(d)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “2010 through 2025” 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 2024” 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 2024” 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, of which \$150,000,000 shall be placed in reserve, to remain available until expended, to be allocated as the Secretary deemed necessary, notwithstanding section 17(i) of such Act, to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates: 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 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.), \$107,481,218,000, of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, and \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2028, 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, \$4,000,000 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, \$551,070,000, to remain available through September 30, 2027, of which \$460,000,000 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, \$160,000,000: 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 \$100,000 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), \$222,000,000, 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: Provided further, 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" under the heading "Food for Peace Title II Grants" in Senate Report 119-37 and shall also address any other needs that the Department of Agriculture believes will be required to support successful implementation of such program transfer.

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, \$1,200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1), \$240,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this heading, not more than 10 percent, but not less than \$24,000,000, shall remain available until expended to purchase agricultural commodities as described in subsection 3107(a)(2) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1(a)(2)).

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Guarantee Program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$6,063,000, to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, which shall be paid to the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses".

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCY 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; \$6,957,972,000: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,556,039,000 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; \$478,166,000 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; \$670,900,000 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; \$55,841,000 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; \$36,152,000 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; \$26,724,000 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: Pro-

vided further, That in addition to and notwithstanding any other provision under this heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and generic new animal drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 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) \$2,496,766,000 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) \$601,291,000 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) \$278,185,000 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) \$894,063,000 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) \$71,758,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$688,038,000 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) \$205,180,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$44,400,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) \$208,018,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) \$343,354,000 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 including, but not limited to, payroll, financial management, and human capital shared services and allow the National Finance Center to perform technology upgrades: Provided further, That of annual income amounts in the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture allocated 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 program under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c; in this section referred to as “section 32”) in excess of \$1,716,293,000 (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—\$2,500,000; Administration of section 32 Commodity Purchases—\$40,971,000: 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 for which 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 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses, and 2007–2011 American Community Survey 5-year average, or any territory or possession of the United States: Provided further, That with respect to specific activities for which program levels have been made available by this Act that are not supported by budget authority, the requirements of this section shall be applied to such program level.

SEC. 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, and the proposed rule issued by the Food and Drug Administration pending at the Office of Management and Budget entitled “Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption Related to Agricultural Water” (86 Fed. Reg. 69120 and 87 Fed. Reg. 42973), 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 CFIUS 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 serv-

ices, 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 2026–2027, 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. A bank referenced in 12 U.S.C. 2128 may make and participate in loans and commitments and provide technical and other financial assistance to cooperatives and any other public or private entity (except for the Federal Government) for the purpose of installing, maintaining, expanding, improving, or operating facilities in a rural area as defined in 12 U.S.C. 2128(f) for the processing or disposal of waste from any source, provision of telecommunication services, and producing electricity from any source for use or sale by the borrower.

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. There is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, to carry out section 758 of division B of Public Law 118–42, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

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 the Compliance Policy Guide (CPG), Guidance for FDA Staff, section 555.320 *Listeria monocytogenes* regarding Lm in low-risk foods, meaning foods that do not support the growth of Lm.

SEC. 753. For necessary expenses associated with cotton classing activities pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 55, to include equipment and facility upgrades, and in addition to any other funds made available for this purpose, there is appropriated, \$4,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: Provided, That amounts made available in this section shall be treated as funds collected by fees authorized under March 4, 1923, ch. 288, section 5, 42 Stat. 1518, as amended (7 U.S.C. 55).

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 Secretary 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, \$5,250,000, 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”;

(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 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. 770. 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. 771. 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. 772. (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 “Enforcement Priorities for Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) and Other Deemed Products on the Market Without Pre-market Authorization”, 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 ENDS 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”.

(e) Within 180 days the FDA shall submit a report to the Committee of Appropriations of both Houses of Congress detailing the Agency’s activities to educate retailers in determining which products are legal for sale.

SEC. 773. (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 submitted 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).

SEC. 774. (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. 775. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Food and Drug Administration to develop, issue, promote, or advance any final guidelines or new regulations applicable to food manufacturers for long-term population-wide sodium reduction actions until an assessment is completed on the impact of the short-term sodium reduction targets.

SEC. 776. There is hereby appropriated \$3,000,000, 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. 777. For purposes of applying the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Food and Drug Administration is directed to engage with industry stakeholders to update the acceptable market name for the following 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*: Provided, That within 180

days of enactment of this Act, the Food and Drug Administration is directed to provide industry stakeholders with new marketing name proposals and is directed to update its Fish and Fishery Products Hazards and Controls Guidance and any other relevant guidance to reflect the new market name once a new marketing name is agreed to expeditiously.

SEC. 778. 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: Provided, That 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. 779. 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.

SEC. 780. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to administer or enforce the “Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain Foods”, published on November 21, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 70910), or any other rule promulgated in accordance with section 204 of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (21 U.S.C. 2223), prior to July 20, 2028. Further, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration shall:

(1) Engage quarterly with the regulated entities, including farms, restaurants, retail food establishments, and warehouses distributing to retail food establishments and restaurants, to identify and implement, as appropriate, additional flexibilities for satisfying the rule’s lot-level tracking requirement, as appropriate, such that regulated entities can comply with the November 21, 2022, rule consistent with section 204(d)(1)(L)(iii), which prohibits the agency from requiring product tracking to the case level.

(2) Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Food and Drug Administration is directed to provide industry stakeholders with recommendations for these additional flexibilities satisfying the rule’s lot-level tracking requirement, as appropriate.

(3) The FDA shall provide assistance to industry regarding how to handle food waste recovery, reclamation, intra-company transfers, customer returns under the rule and initiate a series of hypothetical data intake exercises to test the capabilities of the FDA’s Product Tracing System and, upon request and as resources allow, the covered entity systems and identify any technical difficulties prior to full implementation.

SEC. 781. Effective 365 days 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 tetrahydrocannabinols concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of not more than 0.3 percent 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 tetrahydrocannabinols concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of 0.3 percent in the plant on a dry weight basis; or

“(ii) any intermediate 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) more than 0.3 percent combined total of—

“(aa) total tetrahydrocannabinols (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid); and

“(bb) any other cannabinoids that have similar effects (or are marketed to have similar effects) on humans or animals as a tetrahydrocannabinol (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services); or

“(iii) any intermediate hemp-derived cannabinoid products which are marketed or sold as a final product or directly to an end consumer for personal or household use; or

“(iv) any final 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) greater than 0.4 milligrams combined total per container of—

“(aa) total tetrahydrocannabinols (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid); and

“(bb) any other cannabinoids that have similar effects (or are marketed to have similar effects) on humans or animals as a tetrahydrocannabinol (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services).

“(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, mixture, preparation, or manufacture of such a stalk;

“(B) grown for the use of the whole grain, oil, cake, nut, hull, or any other non-cannabinoid 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 derived from an immature hemp plant that is grown from seeds that do not exceed the threshold for total tetrahydrocannabinols 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) The term ‘intermediate hemp-derived cannabinoid product’ means a hemp-derived cannabinoid product which—

“(i) is not yet in the final form or preparation marketed or intended to be used or consumed by a human or animal; or

“(ii) is a powder, liquid, tablet, oil, or other product form which is intended or marketed to be mixed, dissolved, formulated, or otherwise added to or prepared with or into any other substance prior to administration or consumption.

“(C) The term ‘container’ means the innermost wrapping, packaging, or vessel in direct contact with a final hemp-derived cannabinoid product in which the final hemp-derived cannabinoid product is enclosed for retail sale to consumers, such as a jar, bottle, bag, box, packet, can, carton, or cartridge.

“(D) The term container excludes bulk shipping containers or outer wrappings that are not essential for the final retail delivery or sale to an end consumer for personal or household use.

“(E) 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).”.

(3) Within 90 days of the enactment of this act, the Food and Drug Administration, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall publish—

(A) a list of all cannabinoids known to FDA to be capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant, as reflected in peer reviewed literature;

(B) a list of all tetrahydrocannabinol class cannabinoids known to the agency to be naturally occurring in the plant;

(C) a list of all other known cannabinoids with similar effects to, or marketed to have similar effects to, tetrahydrocannabinol class cannabinoids; and

(D) additional information and specificity about the term “container”, as defined in paragraph (3)(C).

SEC. 782. In addition to amounts otherwise made available, there is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program established pursuant to section 1001(b)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2) to award grants to processors of invasive, wild-caught catfish.

SEC. 783. (a) During the period beginning on the effective date of the final rule entitled “Food Labeling: Nutrient Content Claims; Definition of Term ‘Healthy’” published in the Federal Register by the Food and Drug Administration on December 27, 2024 (89 Fed. Reg. 106064 et seq.) and ending on the compliance date specified in such final rule (referred to in this section as the “compliance period”), a manufacturer may also continue to comply with the requirements in effect on the day before such effective date relating to an implied nutrient content claim of “healthy” made with respect to a food.

(b) In the case of a food that bears labeling making an implied nutrition content claim that the food is “healthy” during the compliance period, the manufacturer of the food shall not be directly or indirectly subject to any State law requirement relating to labeling making an implied nutrient content claim that a food is “healthy” during such period that is not identical to either—

(1) the Federal requirements for labeling to make an implied nutrition content claim that a food is “healthy” that were in effect on the day before the effective date of such final rule; or

(2) the updated Federal requirements specified in the final rule for such a claim.

SEC. 784. Of the unobligated balances available in the Department of the Treasury, Treasury Forfeiture Fund, established by section 9703 of title 31, United States Code, \$350,000,000 shall be permanently rescinded not later than September 30, 2026.

SEC. 785. The Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration shall develop a report to determine the cost and any implications associated with efforts to issue a proposed rule and implement FDA guidance and enforcement for setting standards for pet and animal food labeling and ingredient regulation: Provided, That the report shall—

(1) cover intent for harmonization across state and Federal regulatory bodies for pet and animal food labeling and ingredients;

(2) include timelines for developing guidelines, proposed regulations, resource and personnel needs to implement such standards, and where FDA would need additional authority to implement any proposed changes; and be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 786. Any remaining unobligated balances from amounts made available by section 743 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115–31) may be used, in addition to any funds otherwise made available for such purposes, 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.

SEC. 787. For fiscal year 2026, the maximum monthly allowances of fluid milk for the following food packages described in section 246.10(e) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, are:

(1) For Food Package IV, 16 quarts.

(2) For Food Package V, 22 quarts.

(3) For Food Package VI, 16 quarts.

(4) For Food Package VII, 24 quarts.

(5) For Food Package III, the maximum monthly allowances of fluid milk should conform to the changes made to food packages IV, V, VI, and VII in this section.

SEC. 788. The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) conduct a study to determine the feasibility of applying the Buy American requirement (as described in section 201.21(d) of title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (2022)) to the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, and the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), including the impact applying such requirement would have on the agricultural economy of the United States; and

(2) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit the results of such study to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Agriculture Committee, and the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

SEC. 789. (a) The Secretary shall prepare a report by account that details the status of all projects specified in the table 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: Provided, That such report shall include a breakout showing the subset of projects for which funds have not yet been obligated, or for which funds have been deobligated, an explanation for each such project’s obligation status, the fiscal year in which funds were originally made available for such project, and the period of availability of such funds.

(b) The Secretary shall submit the report described in subsection (a) to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on whichever of the following first occurs—

(1) concurrent with the department’s budget request for fiscal year 2027.

(2) February 15, 2026.

SEC. 790. 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.

This division may be cited as the “Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026”.

DIVISION C—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

TITLE I

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SENATE

EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

For expense allowances of the Vice President, \$20,000; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, \$40,000; Majority Leader of the Senate, \$40,000; Minority Leader of the Senate, \$40,000; Majority Whip of the Senate, \$10,000; Minority Whip of the Senate, \$10,000; President Pro Tempore Emeritus, \$15,000; Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Conference Committees, \$5,000 for each Chairman; and Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Policy Committees, \$5,000 for each Chairman; in all, \$195,000.

For representation allowances of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, \$15,000 for each such Leader; in all, \$30,000.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation of officers, employees, and others as authorized by law, including agency contributions, \$311,543,000, which shall be paid from this appropriation as follows:

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

For the Office of the Vice President, \$3,210,000.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

For the Office of the President Pro Tempore, \$904,000.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS

For the Office of the President Pro Tempore Emeritus, \$392,000.

OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders, \$6,710,000.

OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WHIPS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips, \$4,212,000.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries of the Committee on Appropriations, \$22,710,000.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

For the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, at rates of compensation to be fixed by the Chairman of each such committee, \$2,049,000 for each such committee; in all, \$4,098,000.

OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretaries of the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, \$1,022,000.

POLICY COMMITTEES

For salaries of the Majority Policy Committee and the Minority Policy Committee, \$2,093,000 for each such committee; in all, \$4,186,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

For Office of the Chaplain, \$699,000.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Office of the Secretary, \$35,695,000.

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER

For Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, \$130,353,000.

OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY
AND MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretary for the Majority and the Secretary for the Minority, \$2,785,000.

AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS AND RELATED EXPENSES

For agency contributions for employee benefits, as authorized by law, and related expenses, \$94,567,000.

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE
SENATE

For salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, \$9,401,000.

OFFICE OF SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Senate Legal Counsel, \$1,431,000.

EXPENSE ALLOWANCES OF THE SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE, SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOOR-
KEEPER OF THE SENATE, AND SECRETARIES FOR
THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY OF THE SENATE

For expense allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, \$7,500; Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, \$7,500; Secretary for the Majority of the Senate, \$7,500; Secretary for the Minority of the Senate, \$7,500; in all, \$30,000.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE

INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses of inquiries and investigations ordered by the Senate, or conducted under paragraph 1 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, section 112 of the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1980 (Public Law 96-304), and Senate Resolution 281, 96th Congress, agreed to March 11, 1980, \$222,416,000, of which \$22,242,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

U.S. SENATE CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL
NARCOTICS CONTROL

For expenses of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, \$613,000.

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, \$17,852,000, of which \$13,274,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$4,578,000 shall remain available until expended.

SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE
SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, \$229,845,000, of which \$219,345,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$10,500,000 shall remain available until expended.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

For miscellaneous items, \$28,052,000 which shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE
EXPENSE ACCOUNT

For Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account, \$645,431,000, of which \$32,272,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and of which \$7,000,000 shall be allocated solely for the purpose of providing financial compensation to Senate interns.

OFFICIAL MAIL COSTS

For expenses necessary for official mail costs of the Senate, \$300,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN SENATORS'
OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE AC-
COUNT TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR
TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 101. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act under the heading "SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT" shall be available for obligation only during the fiscal year or fiscal years for which such amounts are made available. Any unexpended balances under such allowances remaining after the end

of the period of availability shall be returned to the Treasury in accordance with the undesignated paragraph under the center heading "GENERAL PROVISION" under chapter XI of the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1957 (2 U.S.C. 4107) and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

DELEGATION AUTHORITY

SEC. 102. Section 104 of division I of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (2 U.S.C. 6154 note) shall be amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by adding the following after "118th" and before "Congress": "and any subsequent";

(2) in subsection (a)(3), by striking "and ending on January 7, 2025"; and

(3) in subsection (b), by striking "on or after January 3, 2023".

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$2,083,055,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$36,560,000, including: Office of the Speaker, \$10,499,000, including \$35,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$3,730,000, including \$15,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$10,499,000, including \$17,500 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$3,099,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$2,809,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, \$2,962,000; Democratic Caucus, \$2,962,000: Provided, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2026 until January 2, 2027.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL
EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$850,000,000.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN
MEMBER OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 120 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2019 (2 U.S.C. 5322a) for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of Members of the House of Representatives, \$20,638,800, to remain available from January 3, 2026 until January 2, 2027: Provided, That notwithstanding section 120(b) of such Act, an office of a Member of the House of Representatives may use not more than \$46,800 of the allowance available under this heading during legislative year 2026.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN
HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2020 (2 U.S.C. 5106) for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices, \$586,000, to remain available from January 3, 2026 until January 2, 2027: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$322,300 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the majority, to be allocated among such offices by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and \$263,700 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Minority Floor Leader.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN
HOUSE STANDING, SPECIAL AND SELECT COM-
MITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(1) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of standing, special, and select committees (other than the Committee on Appropriations), \$2,600,000, to remain available from January 3, 2026 until January 2, 2027: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on House Administration.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(2) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the Committee on Appropriations, \$463,000: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on Appropriations.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$184,787,000: Provided, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2026, except that \$10,000,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room up-grading.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$31,294,000, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: Provided, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2026.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$460,603,000, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than \$25,000 for official representation and reception expenses, of which not more than \$20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than \$2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, \$48,992,000, of which \$10,791,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$140,606,000, of which \$118,013,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$233,248,000, of which \$39,772,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds, \$1,250,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$6,227,000;

for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$2,079,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$2,404,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$4,998,000, of which \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, \$18,740,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$994,000; for other authorized employees, \$1,065,000: Provided, That of the amount made available until expended to the Office of the Sergeant at Arms under this heading, \$100,000,000 shall be for activities associated with providing security for Members of the House of Representatives, including Delegates and the Resident Commissioner to the Congress, their immediate families, and other security purposes.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$491,523,200, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$1,555,000; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$190,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, contractor support for actuarial projections, and other applicable employee benefits, \$444,155,200, to remain available until March 31, 2027, except that \$37,000,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended; salaries and expenses for Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$28,951,000, of which \$6,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, \$9,740,000, to remain available until expended; Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program, \$4,122,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Conduct, \$1,810,000; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$1,000,000.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MODERNIZATION INITIATIVES ACCOUNT

For the House of Representatives Modernization Initiatives Account established under section 115 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2021 (2 U.S.C. 5513), \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That disbursement from this account is subject to approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives: Provided further, That funds provided in this account shall only be used for initiatives approved by the Committee on House Administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 110. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES" shall be available only for fiscal year 2026. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2026 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) As used in this section, the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Rep-

resentative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEC. 112. The head of any Federal entity that provides assistance to the House of Representatives in the House's efforts to deter, prevent, mitigate, or remediate cybersecurity risks to, and incidents involving, the information systems of the House shall take all necessary steps to ensure the constitutional integrity of the separate branches of the government at all stages of providing the assistance, including applying minimization procedures to limit the spread or sharing of privileged House and Member information.

LONG TERM LEASE REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 113. (a) Section 303(f) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13212(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (C);

(2) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "branch, except that it does include the House of Representatives with respect to an acquisition described in paragraph (2)(C)." and inserting "branch."; and

(3) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraph (C).

(b) The amendments made by this section apply to fiscal year 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.

USE OF CHILD CARE CENTER REVOLVING FUND

SEC. 114. (a) Section 312(d)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1992 (2 U.S.C. 2062(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

"(C) The payment of telecommunications expenses for the Center, to include voicemail boxes, land lines, and cell phones for Center employees, in connection with the provision of child care services and as needed for critical and emergent communications."

(b) Section 312(d)(3)(A) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 2062(d)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting "and assistant directors" after "director".

(c) The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TECHNOLOGY

SEC. 115. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2026 for a Member, committee, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives 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 Chinese Military Company List of the Department of Defense.

(2) The Non-SDN Chinese Military Industrial Complex Companies List of the Department of the Treasury.

(3) The Denied Persons List, Entity List, or Military End User List of the Department of Commerce, 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).

(4) The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act Entity List of the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) The prohibition under subsection (a) shall apply to a case in which a Member, committee, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives has entered into a contract with another entity for the procurement or purchase of, or the expenditure of funds on, covered information technology equipment.

(c) In this section, the term "covered information technology equipment"—

(1) means a computer, printer, or interoperable videoconferencing equipment for direct use by a Member, committee, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives in an office environment; and

(2) does not include services that use such equipment, including cloud services.

LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP

SEC. 116. (a) Section 13144 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(c) LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP.—For purposes of this section, the relationship between a Member who is a Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress and who is providing care directly to a patient in the form of medical services or dental services and the patient to whom such care is provided shall not be considered a fiduciary relationship."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to compensation received in fiscal year 2026 or any succeeding fiscal year.

MEMBER SECURITY

SEC. 117. (a) The Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives may use funds made available for providing security for the residences of Members of the House to make essential security improvements if the improvements are included in a category established and updated as necessary by the Sergeant at Arms and approved and regulated by the Committee on House Administration.

(b) This section shall apply with respect to funds made available for fiscal year 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,283,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$14,000,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and their assistants, including:

(1) an allowance of \$3,500 per month to the Attending Physician;

(2) an allowance of \$2,500 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;

(3) an allowance of \$900 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;

(4) an allowance of \$900 per month to 2 assistants and \$900 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and

(5) \$3,388,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and

credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$4,856,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY
SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, \$1,819,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, tuition reimbursement, recruitment and retention bonuses, and other applicable employee benefits, \$653,422,000, of which overtime shall not exceed \$80,067,000 unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, Member protection-related activities and equipment, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, and not more than \$7,500 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$198,928,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee: Provided, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for fiscal year 2026 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security: Provided further, That none of the amounts made available under this heading may be used to purchase a drone manufactured in the People's Republic of China or by a business affiliated with the People's Republic of China except for national security purposes.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

AUTHORIZATIONS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL
TRAINING

SEC. 118. (a) Section 4120 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) An employee of the Capitol Police may receive training under this section outside of the United States only with the prior approval of the Capitol Police Board. In this subsection, the term ‘United States’ means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and possessions of the United States.”.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.

MUTUAL AID TRANSFER AUTHORITY
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 119. Of the amounts made available under the heading “Capitol Police” in this Act, up to \$10,000,000 may be transferred to “Capitol Police—United States Capitol Police Mutual Aid Reimbursements” on September 30, 2026, and, once transferred, shall remain available until September 30, 2030, to be used for reimbursements for mutual aid and related training, including mutual aid and training provided under

the agreements described in section 7302 of Public Law 108–458: Provided, That obligation of the funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be subject to notification to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration and the Committee on House Administration of the amount and purpose of the expense within 15 days of obligation.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE
RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the operation of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, \$8,350,000, of which not more than \$1,000 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$74,750,000, of which not less than \$7,100,000 shall be for cyber-security related expenses: Provided, That the Director shall use not less than \$500,000 of the amount made available under this heading for (1) improving technical systems, processes, and models for the purpose of improving the transparency of estimates of budgetary effects to Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public, and (2) to increase the availability of models, economic assumptions, and data for Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading for cyber-security related expenses, \$2,750,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for all necessary expenses for surveys and studies, construction, operation, and general and administrative support in connection with facilities and activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol, including the Botanic Garden, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; for furnishings and office equipment; for official reception and representation expenses of not more than \$5,000, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$159,450,000.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$74,460,000, of which \$40,099,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$19,385,000, of which \$3,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030.

SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of Senate office buildings; and furniture and furnishings to be expended under the control and supervision of the Architect of the Capitol, \$122,635,000, of which \$16,900,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$20,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care, and operation of the House office

buildings, \$111,887,000, of which \$24,390,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$10,000,000 shall remain available until expended for a payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Fund.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; and all electrical substations of the Capitol; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Publishing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$141,007,000, of which \$22,600,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That not more than \$10,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2026.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$56,563,000, of which \$18,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND
SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computing Facility, and Architect of the Capitol security operations, \$75,069,000, of which \$12,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That none of the amounts made available under this heading may be used to purchase a drone manufactured in the People's Republic of China or by a business affiliated with the People's Republic of China except for national security purposes.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$21,559,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, \$29,901,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

NO BONUSES FOR CONTRACTORS BEHIND SCHEDULE
OR OVER BUDGET

SEC. 120. None of the funds made available in this Act for the Architect of the Capitol may be used to make incentive or award payments to contractors for work on contracts or programs for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, unless the Architect of the Capitol,

or agency-employed designee, 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.

ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC OUTREACH AND SERVICES FOR CAPITOL GROUNDS AND ARBORETUM

SEC. 121. For this fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives, may enter into cooperative agreements with entities under such terms as the Architect determines advisable, in order to support the Capitol Grounds and Arboretum in carrying out its duties, authorities and mission, and may engage in plant material exchanges between the Capitol Grounds and Arboretum and other entities including Federal, State, or local government agencies, botanic gardens, arboreta, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, municipal parks, and gardens.

EXTENSION OF AVAILABILITY FOR LIQUIDATION OF VALID OBLIGATIONS

SEC. 122. Funds previously made available in title III of the Emergency Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 117-31) under the heading “Legislative Branch—Architect of the Capitol—Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds and Security” that were available for obligation through fiscal year 2023 for the purposes and in the amounts specified in the first proviso under such heading are to remain available through fiscal year 2032 for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred in fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023: Provided, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and to legislation establishing fiscal year 2026 budget enforcement in the House of Representatives.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; information technology services provided centrally; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$592,411,000, and, in addition, amounts credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2026 under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150), shall remain available until expended: Provided, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$18,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses, including for the Overseas Field Offices: Provided further, That of the total amount appropriated, not less than \$17,500,000 shall remain available until expended for the Teaching with Primary Sources program, the Lewis-Houghton Civics and Democracy Initiative, the Veterans History Project, the Surplus Books Program, upgrades of the Legislative Branch Financial

Management System, and data storage and migration efforts.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$102,386,000, of which not more than \$37,025,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2026 under sections 708(d) and 1316 of title 17, United States Code: Provided, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: Provided further, That not more than \$7,824,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2026 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(3), 803(e), and 1005 of such title: Provided further, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$44,849,000: Provided further, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$10,300,000 is for modernization initiatives, of which \$9,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027: Provided further, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an “International Copyright Institute” in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: Provided further, That not more than \$6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$136,080,000: Provided, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate: Provided further, That this prohibition does not apply to publication of non-confidential Congressional Research Service (CRS) products: Provided further, That a non-confidential CRS product includes any written product containing research or analysis that is currently available for general congressional access on the CRS Congressional Intranet, or that would be made available on the CRS Congressional Intranet in the normal course of business and does not include material prepared in response to Congressional requests for confidential analysis or research.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$66,130,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall be

available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and print disabled residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 123. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2026, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$342,285,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized publishing of congressional information and the distribution of congressional information in any format; publishing of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and publishing, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$80,000,000: Provided, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: Provided further, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: Provided further, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading “GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND” no 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, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: Provided further, That this appropriation shall be available for publishing congressionally mandated reports under the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act (subtitle D of title LXXII of division G of Public Law 117-263): Provided further, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the public information programs of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications in any format, and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$42,852,000: Provided, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other

related publications for the preceding two fiscal years to depository and other designated libraries: Provided further, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading "GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND" no 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, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, \$9,148,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: Provided, That the Government Publishing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund: Provided further, That not more than \$7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Director of the Government Publishing Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses: Provided further, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: Provided further, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Director of the Government Publishing Office shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: Provided further, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: Provided further, That activities financed through the Business Operations Revolving Fund may provide information in any format: Provided further, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund and the funds provided under the heading "PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS" may not be used for contracted security services at Government Publishing Office's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$811,894,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended: Provided, That,

in addition, \$35,424,000 of payments received under sections 782, 791, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: Provided further, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: Provided further, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed: Provided further, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available to cover costs incurred by the Tiny Findings Child Development Center, in such amount and for such purposes as determined by the Comptroller General, subject to prior notification provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND

For a payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership Fund for financing activities of the Congressional Office for International Leadership under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$6,000,000: Provided, That funds made available to support Russian participants shall only be used for those engaging in free market development, humanitarian activities, and civic engagement, and shall not be used for officials of the central government of Russia.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

TITLE II GENERAL PROVISIONS

MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2026 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: Provided, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under 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 under existing law.

COSTS OF LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FINANCIAL MANAGERS COUNCIL

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 206. 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 appropriation Act.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 207. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate, unless through regulations as authorized by section 402(b)(8) of the Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008 (2 U.S.C. 2242(b)(8)).

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

LIMITATION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire telecommunications or video surveillance equipment produced by—

(1) Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities); or

(2) any entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a foreign adversary.

(b) The term "foreign adversary" has the meaning given the term "covered nation" in section 4872(f) of title 10, United States Code.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

SEC. 209. (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 or other official government activities.

LIMITATION ON COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR MEMBERS

SEC. 210. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2026.

EXTENSION OF PUMP ACT PROTECTIONS TO
CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

SEC. 211. Section 203(a)(1) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1313(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and section 12(c)” and inserting “section 12(c), and section 18D”; and

(2) by inserting “, 218d” after “212(c)”.

MEMBER PROTECTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 212. (a) For an additional amount for “SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—SENATORS’ OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT”, \$75,000,000, which shall be allocated to each personal office in an equal amount, for payments for security enhancements and services under section 4 of Senate Resolution 294 (96th Congress), agreed to April 29, 1980, as amended by S. Res. 413 (119th Congress), agreed to September 18, 2025: Provided, That unobligated balances of funds appropriated pursuant to this subsection at the end of fiscal year 2026 not needed for fiscal year 2026 shall be transferred to “SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS”, and shall remain available until expended, for the purposes of such account, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes: Provided further, That such transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: Provided further, That amounts transferred pursuant to this subsection may not be obligated without the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(b) For an additional amount for “SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE”, \$18,500,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$5,000,000 shall be for coordination and support of Member security programs, \$10,000,000 shall be for security-related activities for State offices, and \$3,500,000 shall be for the residential security system program: Provided, That amounts made available pursuant to this subsection may be transferred to “SENATE—SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES—OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER” and “SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—SERGEANT AT ARMS BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY FUND”: Provided further, That the transfer authority provided pursuant to the preceding proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: Provided further, That of the amounts made available pursuant to this subsection, such sums as necessary may be used to restore amounts, either directly, through reimbursement, or through the transfer authority in the first proviso, for obligations incurred for the same purposes by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate prior to the date of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That amounts made available pursuant to this subsection shall be allocated in accordance with a spending plan submitted to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(c) For an additional amount for “SENATE—CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be for security, continuity and other purposes: Provided, That amounts made available pursuant to this subsection may not be obligated without the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(d) None of the funds provided under the heading “SENATE” in this or any prior Act that are used to provide personal protective services to a Senator shall result in the designation or deputization of individuals as agents of the Federal government.

REQUIRING SENATE NOTIFICATION FOR
DISCLOSURE OF SENATE DATA

SEC. 213. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 10 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (2 U.S.C. 6628) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (7) as paragraphs (5) through (9), respectively;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) the term ‘covered data’ means any electronic mail or other electronic or data communication, other data (including metadata), or other information;”;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3), as so redesignated, the following:

“(4) the term ‘legal process’ does not include a subpoena issued in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate;”;

(E) by striking paragraph (8), as so redesignated, and inserting the following:

“(8) the term ‘Senate data’, with respect to a Senate office—

“(A) means covered data of the Senate office; and

“(B) with respect to an individual described in paragraph (9) acting in a personal capacity, only means covered data that is transmitted, processed, or stored through the use of an electronic system established, maintained, or operated, or the use of electronic services provided, by—

“(i) a provider for the Senate office, if the Senate office or the Office of the SAA has notified the provider for a Senate office that the applicable device or account is a device or account of the Senate office; or

“(ii) the Office of the SAA or an officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA, if the Senate office has notified the Office of the SAA that the applicable device or account is a device or account of the Senate office;”;

(F) in paragraph (9), as so redesignated—

(i) by inserting “(without regard to whether the Senator is acting in his or her official capacity, including acting in a personal capacity and acting through his or her campaign for elected office)” after “a Senator”; and

(ii) by inserting “(whether acting in his or her personal or official capacity)” after “an officer of the Senate”; and

(iii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “(whether acting in his or her personal or official capacity); and”;

(G) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) the term ‘target of a criminal investigation’ means a person—

“(A) as to whom the prosecutor or the grand jury has substantial evidence linking that person to the commission of a crime;

“(B) who, in the judgment of the prosecutor, is a putative defendant; and

“(C) whom the prosecutor, before the date of the acquisition, subpoena, search, accessing, or disclosure of the Senate data at issue, has formally designated as a target in official records, which shall not include any such designation that was made after such date that purports to be retroactive.”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h) as subsections (e) through (i), respectively; and

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) NOTIFICATION.—

“(1) BY PROVIDERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If any provider for a Senate office receives any legal process seeking disclosure of Senate data of the Senate office that is transmitted, processed, or stored (whether temporarily or otherwise) through the use of an electronic system established, maintained, or operated, or the use of electronic services provided, in whole or in part, by the provider for a Senate office, the provider for a Senate office shall notify the Senate office and, unless specified otherwise by the Senate office, the Office of the SAA in writing.

“(B) NO LIMITATIONS ON NOTICE.—A provider for a Senate office shall not be barred from pro-

viding notice to a Senate office and the Office of the SAA under subparagraph (A) by operation of any court order, any statutory provision, any other provision of law, any rule of civil or criminal procedure, or any other rule, regulation, or policy.

“(C) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—A provider for a Senate office shall not be liable under any criminal or civil law for providing notice to a Senate office or the Office of the SAA under this paragraph.

“(2) BY SAA.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Office of the SAA or any officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA receives any legal process seeking disclosure of Senate data of a Senate office that is transmitted, processed, or stored (whether temporarily or otherwise) through the use of an electronic system established, maintained, or operated, or the use of electronic services provided, in whole or in part, by the Office of the SAA or the officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA, the Office of the SAA or the officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA shall notify a Senate office in writing.

“(B) NO LIMITATIONS ON NOTICE.—The Office of the SAA and any officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA shall not be barred from providing notice to a Senate office under subparagraph (A) by operation of any court order, any statutory provision, any other provision of law, any rule of civil or criminal procedure, or any other rule, regulation, or policy.

“(C) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—The Office of the SAA and any officer, employee, or agent of the Office of the SAA shall not be liable under any criminal or civil law for providing notice to a Senate office under this paragraph.

“(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR TARGET AND NON-TARGET INVESTIGATIONS.—

“(A) TARGET INVESTIGATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If a Senator is a target of a criminal investigation, a court may, upon application by the United States, issue an order delaying the notice required under this subsection with respect to an acquisition, subpoena, search, accessing, or disclosure of Senate data in connection with such investigation for a period of not more than 60 days if the court determines that there is reason to believe that providing notice would—

“(I) endanger the life or physical safety of any person;

“(II) result in flight from prosecution;

“(III) result in destruction of or tampering with evidence;

“(IV) result in intimidation of potential witnesses; or

“(V) otherwise seriously jeopardize an investigation or unduly delay a trial.

“(ii) RENEWAL.—The court may renew such an order for additional periods of not more than 60 days each, if the court makes a renewed determination under clause (i).

“(B) ALL OTHER INVESTIGATIONS.—For any investigation in which a Senator is not a target of a criminal investigation, the notice requirements under this subsection shall apply without delay.

“(d) PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) INSTANCE.—The term ‘instance’, with respect to a violation of this section, means each discrete act constituting a violation of this section, including each individual—

“(i) device, account, record, or communication channel subject to collection in a manner in violation of this section;

“(ii) nondisclosure order or judicial sealing order sought, maintained, or obtained; or

“(iii) search conducted.

“(B) VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.—The term ‘violation of this section’ means—

“(i) the seeking, maintaining, or obtaining of a nondisclosure order or judicial sealing order to prevent notification of a Senator, a Senate office, or the Office of the SAA as required under subsection (c); or

“(ii) Senate data was acquired, subpoenaed, searched, accessed, or disclosed pursuant to a

search, seizure, or demand for information without notice being provided as required under subsection (c).

“(2) CAUSE OF ACTION.—Any Senator whose Senate data, or the Senate data of whose Senate office, has been acquired, subpoenaed, searched, accessed, or disclosed in violation of this section may bring a civil action against the United States if the violation was committed by an officer, employee, or agent of the United States or of any Federal department or agency.

“(3) RELIEF.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a Senator prevails on a claim under this subsection, the court shall award—

“(i) for each instance of a violation of this section, the greater of statutory damages of \$500,000 or the amount of actual damages;

“(ii) reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of litigation; and

“(iii) such injunctive or declaratory relief as may be appropriate.

“(B) PRELIMINARY RELIEF.—Upon motion by a Senator, a court may award such preliminary injunctive relief as the court determines appropriate with respect to a claim under this subsection.

“(4) LIMITATIONS AND IMMUNITY.—

“(A) PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS.—A civil action under this subsection may not be commenced later than 5 years after the applicable Senator first obtains actual notice of the violation of this section.

“(B) NO IMMUNITY DEFENSE.—No officer, employee, or agent of the United States or of any Federal department or agency shall be entitled to assert any form of absolute or qualified immunity as a defense to liability under this subsection.

“(5) WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—The United States expressly waives sovereign immunity with respect to actions brought under this subsection.

“(6) AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE FOR TARGET INVESTIGATIONS.—It shall be an affirmative defense to an action under this subsection if the United States establishes that each of the following requirements are met:

“(A) At the time the Senate data was acquired, subpoenaed, searched, accessed, or disclosed, the Senator bringing the action was a target of a criminal investigation.

“(B) A Federal judge issued an order authorizing a delay of notice to the Senator under subsection (c)(3)(A), based on written findings meeting the requirements of such subsection.

“(C) The United States complied with the order described in subparagraph (B), including that the delay of notice did not exceed the period authorized by the court.

“(D) Any related subpoena of, warrant relating to, or access to Senate data was carried out strictly within the temporal and subject-matter scope authorized by the order, if any, authorizing the subpoena, warrant, or access.

“(7) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to—

“(A) limit or impair the constitutional protections afforded to Members of Congress, including to protections under article I, section 6, clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States (commonly known as the ‘Speech or Debate Clause’); or

“(B) restrict the authority of the Senate or any Senate office to intervene in or defend against any legal process seeking disclosure of Senate data.”.

(b) LIMITED RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any acquisition, subpoena, search, accessing, or disclosure of Senate data (as defined in section 10(a) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (2 U.S.C. 6628(a)), as amended by this section), and to any failure to disclose such an acquisition, subpoena, search, accessing, or disclosure, occurring on or after January 1, 2022.

(2) PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term “violation of section 10” has the meaning given the term “violation of this section” in subsection (d) of section 10 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (2 U.S.C. 6628), as added by this section.

(B) PERIOD.—With respect to any violation of section 10 with respect to which the applicable Senator first obtained actual notice of the violation of section 10 before the date of enactment of this Act, a civil action under subsection (d) of section 10 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2005 (2 U.S.C. 6628), as added by this section, may not be commenced later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

This division may be cited as the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2026”.

DIVISION D—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

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, \$2,381,909,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$415,688,000 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, \$377,950,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Army” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, naval installations, facilities, and real property for the Navy and Marine Corps as currently authorized by law, including personnel in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and other personal services necessary for the purposes of this appropriation, \$5,725,724,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$629,088,000 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, \$290,690,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property for the Air Force as currently au-

thorized 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, \$3,926,273,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of this amount, not to exceed \$646,573,000 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, \$361,800,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Air Force” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For acquisition, construction, installation, and equipment of temporary or permanent public works, installations, facilities, and real property for activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as currently authorized by law, \$3,784,301,000, 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 \$226,301,000 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, \$82,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading “Military Construction, Defense-Wide” in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$272,930,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$80,080,000 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 explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Air National Guard, and contributions therefor, as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$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 explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the Army Reserve as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$92,239,000, 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, \$50,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Army Reserve" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for the training and administration of the reserve components of the Navy and Marine Corps as authorized by chapter 1803 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$52,255,000, 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: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$50,000,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Navy Reserve" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, 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, \$116,468,000, to remain available until September 30, 2030: Provided, That, of the amount, not to exceed \$7,170,000

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, \$56,010,000 shall be for the projects and activities, and in the amounts, specified in the table under the heading "Military Construction, Air Force Reserve" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION**SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM**

For the United States share of the cost of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program for the acquisition and construction of military facilities and installations (including international military headquarters) and for related expenses for the collective defense of the North Atlantic Treaty Area as authorized by section 2806 of title 10, United States Code, and Military Construction Authorization Acts, \$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), \$465,161,000, to remain available until expended.

FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For expenses of family housing for the Army for construction, including acquisition, replacement, addition, expansion, extension, and alteration, as authorized by law, \$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 di-

rectly 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", \$144,000,000;
"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 2025 or 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 the accounts and in the amounts specified for design for child development centers, to remain available until September 30, 2030:

"Military Construction, Army", \$5,000,000;
"Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", \$5,000,000; and

"Military Construction, Air Force", \$5,000,000:

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

SEC. 129. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for design for barracks, to remain available until September 30, 2030:

"Military Construction, Army", \$5,000,000;
"Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps", \$5,000,000; and

“Military Construction, Air Force”, \$5,000,000:

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

SEC. 130. For an additional amount for the accounts and in the amounts specified for unspecified minor construction for demolition, to remain available until September 30, 2030:

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

“Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$25,000,000; and

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

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

SEC. 131. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the closure or realignment of the United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 132. Notwithstanding limitations in this and prior Acts on the obligation or expenditure of military construction appropriations for planning and design and construction of projects at Arlington National Cemetery, unobligated funds available to the Department of the Army for military construction projects may be obligated for access road projects at Arlington National Cemetery that have been authorized in accordance with section 210 of title 23, United States Code.

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, \$5,850,000,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2025, to remain available until expended; and, in addition, \$246,630,525,000, 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 au-

thorized by chapters 21, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 51, 53, 55, and 61 of title 38, United States Code, \$4,877,886,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became available on October 1, 2025, to remain available until expended; and, in addition, \$24,703,528,000, 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, \$3,881,000,000: 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 that became 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, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may authorize the dispensing of prescription drugs from Veterans Health Administration facilities to enrolled veterans with privately written prescriptions based on requirements established by the Secretary: Provided further, That the implementation of the program described in the previous proviso shall incur no additional cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that sufficient amounts appropriated under this heading for medical supplies and equipment are available for the acquisition of prosthetics designed specifically for female veterans: Provided further, That nothing in section 2044(e) of title 38, United States Code, may be construed as limiting amounts that may be made available under this heading for fiscal years 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 that became 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 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; \$145,917,000, which shall be in addition to funds previously appropriated under this heading that became 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, \$945,000,000, 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, \$498,500,000, 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, \$429,000,000, which shall be for the offices and in the amounts specified under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), 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, \$280,000,000, 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, \$5,919,000,000, plus reimbursements: Provided, That \$1,422,916,000 shall be for pay and associated costs, of which not to exceed 3 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2027: Provided further, That \$3,917,921,000 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 \$578,163,000 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, \$3,400,000,000, 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 facil-

ity, 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 30 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;

(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; and

(5) a certification that the Department has achieved at least four consecutive successful site deployments without any incidents of a delay in care or patient harm which must be disclosed under Veterans Health Administration Directive 1004.08 which are attributable to EHR systems.

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, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is more than the amount set forth in section 8104(a)(3)(A) of title 38, United States Code, or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, \$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, \$350,000,000, of which \$231,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2030, and of which \$119,000,000 shall remain available until expended, along with unobligated balances of previous "Construction, Minor Projects" appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is equal to or less than the amount set forth in such section: Provided, That funds made available under this heading shall be for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify, or alter existing hospital, nursing home, and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by sections 8131 through 8137 of title 38, United States Code, \$275,000,000, 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, \$150,000,000, 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. Not to exceed 1 percent of amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2026, in this or any other Act, including prior Acts, under the "Medical Services", "Medical Community Care", "Medical Support and Compliance", and "Medical Facilities" accounts may be transferred among the accounts: Provided, That no such account shall be increased by more than 1 percent, in this or any other Act, by any such transfer: Provided further, That amounts may be transferred pursuant to this section only upon written 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 the transfer authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

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 Benefits Administration" and "Information Technology Systems" accounts for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: Provided, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in such an insurance program during fiscal year 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. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon determination that such action is necessary to address needs of the Veterans Health Administration, may transfer to the "Medical Services" account not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary appropriations made available for fiscal year 2026 in this title (except the appropriation made to the "General Operating Expenses, Veterans Benefits Administration" account) or not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary unobligated balances within the Department of Veterans Affairs, including not to exceed 1 percent of those appropriated for fiscal year 2026, that were provided in advance by appropriations Acts: Provided, That the transfer authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law: Provided further, That no amounts may be transferred from amounts that were designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget

or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on emergent healthcare requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by Congress: Provided further, That, upon determination that all or part of the funds transferred from an appropriation are not necessary, such amounts may be transferred back to that appropriation and shall be available for the same purposes as originally appropriated: Provided further, That before a transfer may take place pursuant to this section, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs must provide written notification of the amount and purpose of the transfer to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 230. 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. 231. 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. 232. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the toll-free suicide hotline under section 1720F(h) of title 38, United States Code—

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

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

(b)(1) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce or otherwise carry out any Executive action that prohibits the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from appointing an individual to occupy a vacant civil service position, or establishing a new civil service position, at the Department of Veterans Affairs with respect to such a position relating to the hotline specified in subsection (a).

(2) In this subsection—

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

(B) the term “Executive action” includes—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 233. Effective during the period beginning on October 1, 2018, and ending on January

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

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

(2) adoption reimbursement to a covered veteran.

(b) In this section:

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

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

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

(A) the time periods regarding embryo cryopreservation and storage set forth in part III(G) and in part IV(H) of such memorandum shall not apply; and

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 237. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Labor, shall discontinue collecting and using Social Security account numbers to authenticate individuals in all information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs for all individuals not later than September 30, 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. 238. 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. 239. None of the funds appropriated in this or prior appropriations Acts or otherwise made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs may be used to transfer any amounts from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to any other account within the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 240. Of the funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 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. 241. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this title may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement related to resolving a dispute or claim with an individual that would restrict in any way the individual from speaking to Members of Congress or their staff on any topic not otherwise prohibited from disclosure by Federal law or required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

SEC. 242. For funds provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs for each of fiscal year 2026 and 2027, section 258 of division A of Public Law 114-223 shall apply.

SEC. 243. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. 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. 244. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in a manner that would increase wait times for veterans who seek care at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 245. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to the Veterans Health Administration may be used in fiscal year 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. 246. 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. 247. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to conduct research commencing on or after July 1, 2025, 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 July 1, 2025, 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 December 31, 2025, and bi-annually 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 December 31, 2025, 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 December 31, 2025, 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 September 20, 2026.

SEC. 248. (a) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this title to ensure that the ratio of veterans to full-time employment equivalents within any program of rehabilitation conducted under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, does not exceed 125 veterans to one full-time employment equivalent.

(b) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the programs of rehabilitation conducted under chapter 31 of title 38, United States Code, including—

(1) an assessment of the veteran-to-staff ratio for each such program; and

(2) recommendations for such action as the Secretary considers necessary to reduce the veteran-to-staff ratio for each such program.

SEC. 249. Amounts made available for the “Veterans Health Administration, Medical Community Care” account in this or any other Act for fiscal years 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. 250. Obligations and expenditures applicable to the “Medical Services” account in fiscal years 2017 through 2019 for aid to state homes (as authorized by section 1741 of title 38, United States Code) shall remain in the “Medical Community Care” account for such fiscal years.

SEC. 251. Of the amounts made available for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 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; \$698,000,000 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; \$80,000,000 shall be made available for the Neurology Centers of Excellence; \$342,455,000 shall be made available for rural health care; \$3,459,121,000 shall be made available for veterans’ homelessness programs; \$6,356,000,000 shall be made available for telehealth for veterans; \$709,573,000 shall be made available for opioid prevention and treatment

programs; and, \$31,997,000 shall be made available for the Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program.

SEC. 252. 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. 253. Of the \$75,039,000,000 that became 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. 254. Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an expenditure plan for funds made available 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. 255. Any amounts transferred to the Secretary and administered by a corporation referred to in section 7364(b) of title 38, United States Code, between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018 for purposes of carrying out an order placed with the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to section 1535 of title 31, United States Code, that are available for obligation pursuant to section 7364(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, are to remain available for the liquidation of valid obligations incurred by such corporation during the period of performance of such order, provided that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines that such amounts need to remain available for such liquidation.

SEC. 256. None of the funds in this or any other Act may be used to close Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, domiciliaries, or clinics, conduct an environmental assessment, or to diminish healthcare services at existing Veterans Health Administration medical facilities as part of a planned realignment of services until the Secretary provides to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report including an analysis of how any such planned realignment of services will impact access to care for veterans living in rural or highly rural areas, including travel distances and transportation costs to access a Department medical facility and availability of local specialty and primary care.

SEC. 257. 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. 258. (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. 259. During the period beginning on October 1, 2025 and ending on September 30, 2026, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to administer, implement, or enforce the final rule issued by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to “Change in Rates VA Pays for Special Modes of Transportation” (88 Fed. Reg. 10032) and published on February 16, 2023.

SEC. 260. 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. 261. 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. 262. 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. 263. None of the amounts appropriated by this title may be obligated or expended to cancel a contract with a value that exceeds \$10,000,000 until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an advance notification and written explanation of contingency plans to replace the relevant service being cancelled, including any necessary change in the Department's staffing levels.

SEC. 264. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to reduce the staffing, hours of operation, or services of the Veterans Crisis Line or any other suicide prevention program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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, \$110,000,000, 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

CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase or lease of passenger motor vehicles for replacement on a one-for-one basis only, and not to exceed \$2,000 for official reception and representation ex-

penses, \$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, \$80,000,000, 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. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for a project or program named for an individual serving as a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the United States House of Representatives.

SEC. 407. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

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

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains confidential or proprietary information.

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

SEC. 408. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by an agency of the executive branch to pay for first-class travel by an employee of the agency in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 410. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to execute a contract for goods or services, including construction services, where the contractor has not complied with Executive Order No. 12989.

SEC. 411. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 101(e)(8) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 412. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Defense in this Act may be used to construct, renovate, or expand any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the control of the Department of Defense.

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

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

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

(2) is—

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

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

SEC. 413. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 5502 of title 38, United States Code, in any case arising out of the administration by the Secretary of laws and benefits under such title, to report a person who is deemed mentally incapacitated, mentally incompetent, or to be experiencing an extended loss of consciousness as a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective under subsection (d)(4) or (g)(4) of section 922 of title 18, United States Code, without the order or finding of a judge, magistrate, or other judicial authority of competent jurisdiction that such person is a danger to himself or herself or others.

SEC. 414. 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 matter pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 415. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the policies and requirements described in the transmittal sheet of the Veterans Health Administration published on August 8, 2019, titled “Smoke-Free Policy for Employees at VA Health Care Facilities (VHA Directive 1085.01)” remain in effect.

SEC. 416. (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 E—EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

SEC. 5001. UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT EXTENSION.

(a) Sections 7(j)(5), 7A(l)(4), and 21(e) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79(j)(5), 79a(l)(4), 87j(e)) shall be applied by substituting “January 30, 2026” for “September 30, 2025” each place it appears.

(b) Sections 7D and 19(a) of the United States Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 79d, 87h(a)) shall be applied by substituting “2026” for “2025” each place it appears.

SEC. 5002. EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS.

(a) EXTENSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section and the amendments made by this section, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the authorities (including any limitations on such authorities) provided by each provision of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4490) and each provision of law amended by that Act (and for mandatory programs at such funding levels) as in effect (including pursuant to section 4101 of division D of the American Relief Act, 2025 (Public Law 118–158; 138 Stat. 1767)) on September 30, 2025, shall continue and be carried out until the date specified in paragraph (2).

(2) DATE SPECIFIED.—With respect to an authority described in paragraph (1), the date specified in this paragraph is the later of—

(A) September 30, 2026;

(B) the date specified with respect to such authority in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4490) or a provision of law amended by that Act (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4490), including any amendments made to such provisions by—

(i) titles I and V of Public Law 119–21 (139 Stat. 80, 137);

(ii) the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences Act (Public Law 118–234; 138 Stat. 2836); and

(iii) any other provisions of law enacted after the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4490); and

(C) the date in effect with respect to such authority pursuant to section 4101 of division D of the American Relief Act, 2025 (Public Law 118–158; 138 Stat. 1767)).

(b) DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS.—Programs carried out using the authorities described in subsection (a)(1) that are funded by discretionary appropriations (as defined in section 250(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900(c))) shall be subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) COMMODITY PROGRAMS.—

(1) DAIRY FORWARD PRICING PROGRAM.—Section 1502(e)(2) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8772(e)(2)) is amended by striking “2028” and inserting “2029”.

(2) SUSPENSION OF PERMANENT PRICE SUPPORT AUTHORITIES.—The provisions of law specified in—

(A) subsections (a) and (b) of section 1602 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9092)—

(i) shall not be applicable to the 2026 crops of covered commodities (as defined in section 1111 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 9011)), cotton, and sugar; and

(ii) shall not be applicable to milk through December 31, 2026; and

(B) section 1602(c) of that Act (7 U.S.C. 9092(c)) shall not be applicable to the crops of wheat planted for harvest in calendar year 2026.

(d) OTHER PROGRAMS.—

(1) TRADE.—Section 302(h)(2) of the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f–1(h)(2)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

(2) GRAZINGLANDS RESEARCH LABORATORY.—Section 7502 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246; 122 Stat. 2019; 132 Stat. 4817; 138 Stat. 1769) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2026”.

(3) ENERGY.—Section 9010(b) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8110(b)) is amended in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A) by striking “2025” each place it appears and inserting “2026”.

(e) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) COMMODITIES.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under section 1614(c)(4) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9097(c)(4)).

(2) CONSERVATION.—

(A) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under the following provisions of law:

(i) Section 1240O(b)(3) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2(b)(3)).

(ii) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1241(a)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)(1)) for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to limitations under the following provisions of law:

(i) Section 1240G of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–7).

(ii) Section 1240L(f) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24(f)).

(3) RURAL DEVELOPMENT.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under section 313B(e)(2) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940c–2(e)(2)).

(4) RESEARCH.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under the following provisions of law:

(A) Section 1446(b)(1) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222a(b)(1)).

(B) Section 7601(g)(1)(A) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5939(g)(1)(A)).

(5) ENERGY.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under the following provisions of law:

(A) Section 9002(k)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8102(k)(1)).

(B) Section 9003(g)(1)(A) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103(g)(1)(A)).

(6) HORTICULTURE.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under the following provisions of law:

(A) Section 2123(c)(4) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6522(c)(4)).

(B) Section 10109(c)(1) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334).

(7) MISCELLANEOUS.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to mandatory funding under section 209(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627a(c)).

(f) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), any requirement under a provision of law described in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) to submit a report on a recurring basis, and the final report under which was required to be submitted during fiscal year 2025, shall continue, and the requirement shall be carried out, on the same recurring basis, until the later of the dates specified in paragraph (2) of that subsection.

(2) **APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED.**—If discretionary appropriations (as defined in section 250(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900(c))) are required to carry out a reporting requirement described in paragraph (1), the application of that paragraph to that reporting requirement shall be subject to the availability of appropriations.

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section and the amendments made by this section shall be applied and administered as if this section and those amendments had been enacted on September 30, 2025.

DIVISION F—HEALTH EXTENDERS

TITLE I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS

SEC. 6101. EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS, AND TEACHING HEALTH CENTERS THAT OPERATE GME PROGRAMS.

(a) **EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.**—Section 10503(b)(1) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) \$1,423,890,411 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026; and”.

(b) **EXTENSION FOR THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS.**—Section 10503(b)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (J), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (K), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(L) \$115,315,068 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026.”.

(c) **TEACHING HEALTH CENTERS THAT OPERATE GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**—Section 340H(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256h(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) \$58,493,151 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026.”.

(d) **APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the amendments made by this section shall be subject to the requirements contained in Public Law 117–328 for funds for programs authorized under sections 330 through 340 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b et seq.).

(e) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 3014(h)(4) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “and section 2101(d) of division B of the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025” and inserting “section 2101(d) of division B of the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025, and section 6101(d) of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026”.

SEC. 6102. EXTENSION OF SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAMS.

(a) **EXTENSION OF SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAMS FOR TYPE I DIABETES.**—Section 330B(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-2(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) \$53,145,205 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, to remain available until expended.”.

(b) **EXTENDING FUNDING FOR SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAMS FOR INDIANS.**—Section 330C(c)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254c-3(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) \$53,145,205 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, to remain available until expended.”.

SEC. 6103. NATIONAL HEALTH SECURITY EXTENSIONS.

(a) Section 319(e)(8) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d(e)(8)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(b) Section 319L(e)(1)(D) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-7e(e)(1)(D)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(c) Section 319L-1(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d-7f(b)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(d)(1) Section 2811A(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-10b(g)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(2) Section 2811B(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-10c(g)(1)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(3) Section 2811C(g)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-10d(g)(1)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

(e) Section 2812(c)(4)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-11(c)(4)(B)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

TITLE II—MEDICARE

SEC. 6201. EXTENSION OF INCREASED INPATIENT HOSPITAL PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT FOR CERTAIN LOW-VOLUME HOSPITALS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1886(d)(12) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(12)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “in fiscal year 2026” and inserting “during the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on January 31, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2026, and in fiscal year 2027”; and

(2) in subparagraph (C)(i)—

(A) in the matter preceding subclause (I)—

(i) by inserting “or portion of a fiscal year” after “for a fiscal year”; and

(ii) by inserting “and the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through 2025”; and

(B) in subclause (III), by inserting “and the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through 2025”; and

(C) in subclause (IV), by striking “fiscal year 2026” and inserting “the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on January 31, 2026, and ending on September 30, 2026, and fiscal year 2027”; and

(3) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “or during the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through 2025”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “and the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through 2025”.

(b) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this section by program instruction or otherwise.

SEC. 6202. EXTENSION OF THE MEDICARE-DEPENDENT HOSPITAL (MDH) PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1886(d)(5)(G) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(5)(G)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”; and

(2) in clause (ii)(II), by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1886(b)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”; and

(B) in clause (iv), by inserting “and the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through fiscal year 2025”.

(2) **PERMITTING HOSPITALS TO DECLINE RECLASSIFICATION.**—Section 13501(e)(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1395ww note) is amended by inserting “, or the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “through fiscal year 2025”.

SEC. 6203. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR QUALITY MEASURE ENDORSEMENT, INPUT, AND SELECTION.

Section 1890(d)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395aaa(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking “and \$14,030,000” and inserting “\$14,030,000”; and

(B) by inserting the following before the period at the end: “, and \$13,300,000 for fiscal year 2026”; and

(2) in the third sentence, by striking “and 2024 and the period beginning on October 1, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2025,” and inserting “2024, 2025, and 2026”.

SEC. 6204. EXTENDING ACUTE HOSPITAL CARE AT HOME WAIVER AUTHORITIES.

Section 1866G(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc-7(a)(1)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

SEC. 6205. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR MEDICARE HOSPICE SURVEYS.

Section 3(a)(2) of the IMPACT Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–185) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

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

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

“(C) \$2,000,000 for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026.”.

SEC. 6206. EXTENSION OF ADD-ON PAYMENTS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Section 1834(l) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (12)(A), by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”; and

(2) in paragraph (13), by striking “October 1, 2025” each place it appears and inserting “January 31, 2026” in each such place.

SEC. 6207. EXTENSION OF THE WORK GEOGRAPHIC INDEX FLOOR.

Section 1848(e)(1)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(e)(1)(E)) is amended by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”.

SEC. 6208. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN TELEHEALTH FLEXIBILITIES.

(a) **REMOVING GEOGRAPHIC REQUIREMENTS AND EXPANDING ORIGINATING SITES FOR TELEHEALTH SERVICES.**—Section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B)(iii), by striking “ending September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending January 30, 2026”; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(C)(iii), by striking “ending on September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending on January 30, 2026”.

(b) EXPANDING PRACTITIONERS ELIGIBLE TO FURNISH TELEHEALTH SERVICES.—Section 1834(m)(4)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)(4)(E)) is amended by striking “ending on September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending on January 30, 2026”.

(c) EXTENDING TELEHEALTH SERVICES FOR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS AND RURAL HEALTH CLINICS.—Section 1834(m)(8)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)(8)(A)) is amended by striking “ending on September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending on January 30, 2026”.

(d) DELAYING THE IN-PERSON REQUIREMENTS UNDER MEDICARE FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FURNISHED THROUGH TELEHEALTH AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.—

(1) DELAY IN REQUIREMENTS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FURNISHED THROUGH TELEHEALTH.—Section 1834(m)(7)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)(7)(B)(i)) is amended, in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “on or after October 1, 2025” and inserting “on or after January 31, 2026”.

(2) MENTAL HEALTH VISITS FURNISHED BY RURAL HEALTH CLINICS.—Section 1834(y)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(y)(2)) is amended by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”.

(3) MENTAL HEALTH VISITS FURNISHED BY FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS.—Section 1834(o)(4)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(o)(4)(B)) is amended by striking “October 1, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”.

(e) ALLOWING FOR THE FURNISHING OF AUDIO-ONLY TELEHEALTH SERVICES.—Section 1834(m)(9) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)(9)) is amended by striking “ending on September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending on January 30, 2026”.

(f) EXTENDING USE OF TELEHEALTH TO CONDUCT FACE-TO-FACE ENCOUNTER PRIOR TO RECERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR HOSPICE CARE.—Section 1814(a)(7)(D)(i)(II) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(a)(7)(D)(i)(II)) is amended by striking “ending on September 30, 2025” and inserting “ending on January 30, 2026”.

(g) PROGRAM INSTRUCTION AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may implement the amendments made by this section through program instruction or otherwise.

SEC. 6209. REVISING PHASE-IN OF MEDICARE CLINICAL LABORATORY TEST PAYMENT CHANGES.

(a) REVISED PHASE-IN OF REDUCTIONS FROM PRIVATE PAYOR RATE IMPLEMENTATION.—Section 1834A(b)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m–1(b)(3)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by inserting “and for the period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on January 30, 2026” after “2025”; and

(2) in clause (iii), by striking “for each of 2026 through 2028” and inserting “for the period beginning on January 31, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2026, and for each of 2027 and 2028”.

(b) REVISED REPORTING PERIOD FOR REPORTING OF PRIVATE SECTOR PAYMENT RATES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICARE PAYMENT RATES.—Section 1834A(a)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m–1(a)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “January 31, 2026”; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “January 1, 2026, and ending March 31, 2026” and inserting “February 1, 2026, and ending April 30, 2026”.

SEC. 6210. EXTENSION OF FUNDING OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS.

(a) STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Subsection (a)(1)(B) of section 119 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1395b–3 note) is amended—

(1) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(3) by inserting after clause (xiv) the following new clause:

“(xv) for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, \$5,013,699.”.

(b) AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.—Subsection (b)(1)(B) of such section 119 is amended—

(1) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(3) by inserting after clause (xiv) the following new clause:

“(xv) for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, \$5,013,699.”.

(c) AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS.—Subsection (c)(1)(B) of such section 119 is amended—

(1) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(3) by inserting after clause (xiv) the following new clause:

“(xv) for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, \$1,671,233.”.

(d) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO INFORM OLDER AMERICANS ABOUT BENEFITS AVAILABLE UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS.—Subsection (d)(2) of such section 119 is amended—

(1) in clause (xiii), by striking “and” at the end;

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

(3) by inserting after clause (xiv) the following new clause:

“(xv) for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, \$5,013,699.”.

SEC. 6211. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY INCLUSION OF AUTHORIZED ORAL ANTIVIRAL DRUGS AS COVERED PART D DRUGS.

Section 1860D–2(e)(1)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–102(e)(1)(C)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “January 30, 2026”.

SEC. 6212. MEDICARE IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Section 1898(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395iii(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “fiscal year 2026” and inserting “fiscal year 2027”; and

(2) by striking “\$1,804,000,000” and inserting “\$1,403,000,000”.

SEC. 6213. MEDICARE SEQUESTRATION.

Section 251A(6)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901a(6)(D)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “10 months” and inserting “11 months”; and

(2) in clause (ii), by striking “2 months” and inserting “1 month”.

TITLE III—HUMAN SERVICES

SEC. 6301. SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION EXTENSION.

Section 510 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 710) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “2023, for the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on November 17, 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, for the period beginning on January 20, 2024, and ending on March 8, 2024, for the period beginning on March 9, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, and for fiscal year 2025” and inserting “2025, and for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026”; and

(ii) by striking “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “fiscal year 2026”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “through 2023” and inserting “through 2025”; and

(II) by striking “fiscal year 2024 or 2025” and inserting “fiscal year 2026”; and

(III) by inserting “(or, with respect to the applicable period, for fiscal year 2026)” after “an application for the fiscal year”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “2024 or 2025” and inserting “2026”; and

(2) in subsection (f)(1) by striking “2023, for the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on November 17, 2023, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on March 9, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, and for fiscal year 2025, an amount equal to the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2024” and inserting “2025, and for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2025”.

SEC. 6302. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION EXTENSION.

Section 513 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 713) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “2023, for the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on November 17, 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, for the period beginning on January 20, 2024, and ending on March 8, 2024, for the period beginning on March 9, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, and for fiscal year 2025” and inserting “2025, and for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on November 17, 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, for the period beginning on January 20, 2024, and ending on March 8, 2024, for the period beginning on March 9, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, and for fiscal year 2025” and inserting “fiscal years 2024 and 2025, and for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(3), by striking “2024 or 2025” and inserting “2026”; and

(3) in subsection (f), by striking “2023, for the period beginning on October 1, 2023, and ending on November 17, 2023, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on November 18, 2023, and ending on January 19, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on January 20, 2024, and ending on March 8, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, for the period beginning on March 9, 2024, and ending on September 30, 2024, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for the corresponding period for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2023, and for fiscal year 2025, an amount equal to the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2024 for fiscal year 2024” and inserting “2025, and for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the

amount appropriated for the corresponding period for fiscal year 2025”.

SEC. 6303. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR FAMILY-TO-FAMILY HEALTH INFORMATION CENTERS.

Section 501(c)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701(c)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (vii), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (viii), by adding “; and” at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(ix) for the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026, an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the amount appropriated for fiscal year 2025.”.

TITLE IV—MEDICAID

SEC. 6401. MODIFYING CERTAIN DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE HOSPITAL ALLOTMENTS.

(a) **EXTENDING TENNESSEE DSH ALLOTMENTS.**—Section 1923(f)(6)(A)(vi) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4(f)(6)(A)(vi)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by inserting “AND A PORTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2026” after “2025”; and

(2) by inserting “, and the DSH allotment for Tennessee for the portion of fiscal year 2026 beginning October 1, 2025, and ending January 30, 2026, shall be \$17,748,493, which may be claimed as fiscal year 2026 uncompensated care costs” before the period.

(b) **DELAYING DSH ALLOTMENT REDUCTIONS.**—Section 1923(f) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-4(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7)(A)—

(A) in clause (i)—

striking “the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “For each of fiscal years 2026 through 2028” and inserting “For the period beginning January 31, 2026, and ending September 30, 2026, and for each of fiscal years 2027 and 2028”;

(ii) in subclause (I), by inserting “or period” after “the fiscal year”; and

(iii) in subclause (II), by inserting “or period” after “in the fiscal year”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2028” and inserting “for the period beginning January 31, 2026, and ending September 30, 2026, and for each of fiscal years 2027 and 2028”; and

(2) in paragraph (8), by striking “2027” and inserting “2028”.

TITLE V—FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 6501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Amendments”.

SEC. 6502. FINDING.

Congress finds that the fees authorized by the amendments made in this title will be dedicated to over-the-counter (OTC) monograph drug activities, as set forth in the goals identified for purposes of part 10 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j-71 et seq.), in the letters from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, as set forth in the Congressional Record.

SEC. 6503. DEFINITIONS.

Section 744L(9)(A) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j-71(9)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (v), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in clause (vi)—

(A) by striking “addition” and inserting “the addition”; and

(B) by striking the period and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) the addition or modification of a testing procedure applicable to one or more OTC monograph drugs, provided that such additional or modified testing procedure reflects a voluntary consensus standard with respect to pharmaceutical quality that is—

“(I) established by a national or international standards development organization; and

“(II) recognized by the Secretary through a process described in guidance for industry, initially published in July 2023, or any successor guidance, publicly available on the website of the Food and Drug Administration, which addresses voluntary consensus standards for pharmaceutical quality.”.

SEC. 6504. AUTHORITY TO ASSESS AND USE OTC MONOGRAPH FEES.

(a) **TYPES OF FEES.**—Section 744M(a)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j-72(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “on December 31 of the fiscal year or at any time during the preceding 12-month period” and inserting “at any time during the applicable period specified in clause (ii) for a fiscal year”; and

(B) by striking “Each person” and inserting the following:

“(i) **ASSESSMENT OF FEES.**—Each person”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) **APPLICABLE PERIOD.**—For purposes of clause (i), the applicable period is—

“(I) for fiscal year 2026, the 12-month period ending on December 31, 2025;

“(II) for fiscal year 2027, the 9-month period ending on September 30, 2026; and

“(III) for fiscal year 2028 and each subsequent fiscal year, the 12-month period ending on September 30 of the preceding fiscal year.”.

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by amending subclause (I) to read as follows:

“(I) has ceased all activities related to OTC monograph drugs prior to—

“(aa) for purposes of fiscal year 2026, January 1, 2025;

“(bb) for purposes of fiscal year 2027, January 1, 2026; and

“(cc) for purposes of fiscal year 2028 and each subsequent fiscal year, October 1 of the preceding fiscal year; and”;

(3) by amending subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

“(D) **DUE DATE.**—

“(i) **FISCAL YEAR 2026.**—For fiscal year 2026, the facility fees required under subparagraph (A) shall be due on the later of—

“(I) the first business day of June of such year; or

“(II) the first business day after the enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees under this section for such year.

“(ii) **FISCAL YEAR 2027.**—For fiscal year 2027, the facility fees required under subparagraph (A) shall be due—

“(I) in a first installment representing 50 percent of such fee, on the later of—

“(aa) October 1, 2026; or

“(bb) the first business day after the enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees under this section for such year; and

“(II) in a second installment representing the remaining 50 percent of such fee, on—

“(aa) February 1, 2027; or

“(bb) if an appropriations Act described in subclause (I)(bb) is not in effect on February 1, 2027, the first business day after enactment of such an appropriations Act.

“(iii) **SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.**—For fiscal year 2028 and each subsequent fiscal year, the facility fees required under subparagraph (A) shall be due on the later of—

“(I) the first business day on or after October 1 of the fiscal year; or

“(II) the first business day after the date of enactment of an appropriations Act providing for the collection and obligation of fees under this section for the fiscal year.”.

(b) **FEE REVENUE AMOUNTS.**—Section 744M(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j-72(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) **FEE REVENUE AMOUNTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For each of the fiscal years 2026 through 2030, fees under subsection (a)(1) shall be established to generate a total facility fee revenue amount equal to the sum of—

“(A) the annual base revenue for the fiscal year (as determined under paragraph (2));

“(B) the dollar amount equal to the inflation adjustment for the fiscal year (as determined under subsection (c)(1));

“(C) the dollar amount equal to the operating reserve adjustment for the fiscal year, if applicable (as determined under subsection (c)(2));

“(D) additional direct cost adjustments (as determined under subsection (c)(3));

“(E) an additional dollar amount equal to—

“(i) \$2,373,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(ii) \$1,233,000 for fiscal year 2027; and

“(iii) \$854,000 for fiscal year 2028; and

“(F) in the case of a fiscal year for which the Secretary applies the one-time facility fee workload adjustment under subsection (c)(4), the dollar amount equal to such adjustment.

“(2) **ANNUAL BASE REVENUE.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the dollar amount of the annual base revenue for a fiscal year shall be—

“(A) for fiscal year 2026, the dollar amount of the total revenue amount established for fiscal year 2025 under this subsection as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Amendments, not including any adjustments made for such fiscal year 2025 under subsection (c)(2), as so in effect; and

“(B) for fiscal years 2027 through 2030, the dollar amount of the total revenue amount established under this subsection for the previous fiscal year, not including any adjustments made for such previous fiscal year under subsection (c)(2) or (c)(3).”.

(c) **ADJUSTMENTS; ANNUAL FEE SETTING.**—Section 744M(c) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j-72(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(i) by striking “subsection (b)(2)(B)” and inserting “subsection (b)(1)(B)”; and

(ii) by striking “fiscal year 2022 and each subsequent fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal year”;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “fiscal year 2022” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “a fiscal year shall be equal to the product of—

“(i) for fiscal year 2026—

“(I) the fee for fiscal year 2025 under subsection (a)(2); and

“(II) the inflation adjustment percentage under subparagraph (C); and

“(ii) for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2030—

“(I) the applicable fee under subsection (a)(2) for the preceding fiscal year; and

“(II) the inflation adjustment percentage under subparagraph (C).”; and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “the sum of” after “is equal to”; and

(ii) by striking clause (i);

(iii) by redesignating subclauses (I) and (II) of clause (ii) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(iv) by striking “(ii) for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025, the sum of—”; and

(v) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by striking “Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV” and inserting “Washington-Arlington-Alexandria-DC-VA-MD-WV”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “fiscal year 2021 and subsequent fiscal years” and inserting “each fiscal year”;

(ii) by striking “subsections (b)(1)(B) and (b)(2)(C)” and inserting “subsection (b)(1)(C)”; and

(iii) by striking “the number of weeks specified in subparagraph (B)” and inserting “10 weeks”;

(B) by striking subparagraph (B);

(C) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(D) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by striking “paragraph (4) establishing” and inserting “paragraph (5) publishing”;

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “subsection (b)(2)(D)” and inserting “subsection (b)(1)(D)”;

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (E) and inserting the following:

“(A) \$135,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(B) \$300,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(C) \$55,000 for fiscal year 2028;

“(D) \$30,000 for fiscal year 2029; and

“(E) \$0 for fiscal year 2030.”; and

(4) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) ONE-TIME FACILITY FEE WORKLOAD ADJUSTMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the adjustments under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), the Secretary may further increase the fee revenues and fees through a one-time adjustment made for fiscal year 2028, 2029, or 2030, in accordance with this paragraph.

“(B) ADJUSTMENT DESCRIBED.—

“(i) CONDITIONS FOR ADJUSTMENT.—An adjustment under this paragraph may be made for a fiscal year only if—

“(I) an adjustment under this paragraph had not been made for any prior fiscal year;

“(II) the average number of OTC monograph drug facilities subject to a facility fee under subsection (a)(1) over the period of the preceding 3 fiscal years exceeds 1,625; and

“(III) with respect to facilities described in subclause (II), the average number of such facilities (expressed as a percentage) that appeared on the arrears lists pursuant to subsection (e)(1)(A)(i) over the period of the preceding 3 fiscal years is less than 30 percent.

“(ii) AMOUNT OF ADJUSTMENT.—An adjustment under this paragraph for a fiscal year shall equal the product of—

“(I) the total facility revenue amount determined under subsection (b) for the fiscal year, exclusive of the adjustment under this paragraph for such fiscal year; and

“(II) the excess facility percentage described in clause (iii).

“(iii) EXCESS FACILITY PERCENTAGE.—The excess facility percentage described in this clause is—

“(I) the amount by which the average number of OTC monograph drug facilities subject to a facility fee under subsection (a)(1) over the preceding 3 fiscal years exceeds 1,625; divided by

“(II) 1,625.

“(5) ANNUAL FEE SETTING.—The Secretary shall, not later than 60 days before the first day of each fiscal year—

“(A) establish for such fiscal year, based on the revenue amounts under subsection (b) and the adjustments provided under this subsection—

“(i) OTC monograph drug facility fees under subsection (a)(1); and

“(ii) OTC monograph order request fees under subsection (a)(2); and

“(B) publish such fee revenue amounts, facility fees, and OTC monograph order request fees in the Federal Register.”.

(d) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—Section 744M(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–72(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(D)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by striking “IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS”; and

(B) by striking “(after fiscal year 2021)”;

and (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “2021 through 2025” and inserting “2026 through 2030”.

SEC. 6505. REAUTHORIZATION; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) PERFORMANCE REPORT.—Section 744N of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–73) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “Beginning with fiscal year 2021, and not later than 120 calendar days after the end of each fiscal year thereafter” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 calendar days after the end of each fiscal year”;

(B) by striking “section 3861(b) of the CARES Act” and inserting “section 6502 of the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Amendments”;

and (C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—Beginning with fiscal year 2026, the annual report under this subsection shall include—

“(A) the progress of the Food and Drug Administration in achieving the goals, and future plans for meeting the goals, including—

“(i) the number of Tier 1 OTC monograph order requests for which a proposed order was issued, and the number of such requests for which a final order was issued, in the previous fiscal year;

“(ii) the number of Tier 2 OTC monograph order requests for which a proposed order was issued, and the number of such requests for which a final order was issued, in the previous fiscal year;

“(iii) the number of specified safety OTC monograph order requests for which a proposed order was issued, and the number of such requests for which a final order was issued, in the previous fiscal year;

“(iv) the number of generally recognized as safe and effective finalization OTC monograph order requests for which a proposed order was issued, and the number of such requests for which a final order was issued, in the previous fiscal year;

“(v) the average timeline for processing OTC monograph order requests, in the aggregate and by submission type, in the previous fiscal year; and

“(vi) postmarket safety activities with respect to OTC monograph drugs, including—

“(I) collecting, developing, and reviewing safety information on OTC monograph drugs, including adverse event reports;

“(II) developing and using improved analytical tools, adverse event data-collection systems, including information technology systems, to assess potential safety problems, including access to external databases; and

“(III) activities under section 760;

“(B) information regarding registration of OTC monograph drug facilities and contract manufacturing organization facilities and payment of registration fees by such facilities, including—

“(i) the OTC monograph drug facilities and contract manufacturing organization facilities that were first registered under section 510(c) or 510(i) in the fiscal year; and

“(ii) for each OTC monograph drug facility and contract manufacturing organization facility that was assessed a facility fee under section 744M(a) in the fiscal year, whether the facility paid such fee;

“(C) the status of implementation of evidence and testing standards under section 505G(r) for nonprescription drugs intended for topical administration, including—

“(i) the application of evidence or testing standards; and

“(ii) the number of active ingredient requests for nonprescription drugs intended for topical administration reviewed using the standards under section 505G(b); and

“(D) the progress of the Food and Drug Administration in allowing nonclinical testing alternatives to animal testing for the consideration of sunscreen active ingredients.

“(3) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Nothing in paragraph (2) shall be construed to authorize the disclosure

of information that is prohibited from disclosure under section 301(j) of this Act or section 1905 of title 18, United States Code, or that is subject to withholding under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code.”.

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “fiscal year 2021 and each subsequent fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal year”; and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking “2025” each place it appears and inserting “2030”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) MINUTES OF NEGOTIATION MEETINGS.—

“(A) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make publicly available, on the public website of the Food and Drug Administration, robust written minutes of all negotiation meetings conducted under this subsection between the Food and Drug Administration and the regulated industry, not later than 30 days after each such negotiation meeting.

“(B) CONTENT.—The robust written minutes described under subparagraph (A) shall contain, in detail, any substantive proposal made by any party to the negotiations as well as significant controversies or differences of opinion during the negotiations and their resolution.”.

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2027, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report assessing the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of—

(A) the overall stability of the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs;

(B) what information is collected by the Food and Drug Administration with respect to the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs;

(C) how the Food and Drug Administration uses information collected on the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs to inform regulatory decisions;

(D) how the Food and Drug Administration coordinates with other Federal agencies to monitor and mitigate disruptions to the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs; and

(E) the unique characteristics of the over-the-counter monograph drug marketplace and what additional authorities or information the Food and Drug Administration may need to ensure the stability of the supply chain of over-the-counter monograph drugs.

SEC. 6506. TREATMENT OF ACTIVE INGREDIENTS FOR TOPICAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505G of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355h) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(r) EVIDENCE AND TESTING STANDARDS FOR ACTIVE INGREDIENTS FOR TOPICAL ADMINISTRATION.—

“(1) EVIDENCE AND TESTING STANDARDS FOR ACTIVE INGREDIENTS FOR TOPICAL ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

“(A) in evaluating the generally recognized as safe and effective status of active ingredients used in nonprescription drugs intended for topical administration for purposes of subsection (a), utilize standards that allow for the use of real world evidence (as defined in section 505F(b)), as appropriate, as part of a comprehensive evaluation of scientific evidence to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of such active ingredients, to supplement evidence from traditional clinical trials, provided that such standards allow the Secretary to evaluate whether the benefits of such active ingredients outweigh the risks; and

“(B) apply subsection (b)(6)(C) to the regulation of active ingredients used in drugs intended for topical administration.

“(2) NON-ANIMAL TESTING METHODS FOR TOPICAL ACTIVE INGREDIENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall consider the types of nonclinical tests described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of the first subsection (2) of section 505 (as inserted by section 3209(a)(2) of the Health Extenders, Improving Access to Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP, and Strengthening Public Health Act of 2022 (division FF of Public Law 117–328)), or any other alternative to animal testing that the Secretary determines appropriate, in the consideration of drugs intended for topical administration under this section.

“(B) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall issue new draft guidance on how sponsors can use nonclinical testing alternatives to animal testing, as appropriate, to meet safety and efficacy standards under this section for drugs intended for topical administration.

“(3) CLARIFICATION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter, supersede, or limit the standards for making determinations of whether a drug is generally recognized as safe and effective under section 201(p) or the standards set forth under section 505 for determining the safety and effectiveness of drugs.”.

(b) SUNSCREEN FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER.—A final administrative order on nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients issued under section 3854 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136; 21 U.S.C. 360fff–3 note) shall—

(1) account for historical data regarding the safety of sunscreen active ingredients that have previously been accepted for marketing in the United States;

(2) account for the role of broad spectrum sunscreens with a Sun Protection Factor of 15 or higher in effective skin cancer prevention; and

(3) incorporate the evidence and testing standards for sunscreen active ingredients detailed in section 505G(r) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355h) (as added by subsection (a)).

SEC. 6507. INCREASING THE CLARITY AND PREDICTABILITY OF THE PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING APPLICATIONS FOR RX-TO-NONPRESCRIPTION SWITCHES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) RX-TO-NONPRESCRIPTION SWITCHES.—

“(A) MEETINGS.—Any person planning to submit an application for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch may submit to the Secretary a written request for a meeting, for purposes of developing a plan for such application that addresses the potential risks to public health of such switch and the evidence necessary to support such application, including the design of any necessary studies, and the format and content of the planned application. The Secretary may grant such a meeting, as appropriate, consistent with established procedures for granting meetings with, and providing written responses to, applications under this section. Each such meeting shall be documented in meeting minutes.

“(B) GUIDANCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall issue guidance to increase the clarity and predictability of the process and standards for approval of applications for nonprescription drugs under this section, including in the case of applications for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch, especially with respect to prescription drugs with well-established safety profiles for which an applicant may seek approval for nonprescription use.

“(ii) CONTENTS.—The guidance under clause (i) shall—

“(1) describe how published reports in medical literature, any previous finding of safety or effectiveness for the drug under this section, the results of significant human experience with the drug, unpublished studies and other data, and other sources of information may be used to sup-

port an application for a nonprescription drug, including in the context of an application for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch;

“(II) set forth procedures for sponsors to request meetings described in subparagraph (A) and document the recommendations made in such meetings;

“(III) describe evidentiary expectations to support approval of an application for a nonprescription drug, including in the context of an application for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch, including how sponsors can demonstrate that consumers can appropriately self-select and use the drug and comprehend the nonprescription drug label; and

“(IV) provide recommendations for how mechanisms, in addition to the required Drug Facts Label, such as mobile applications and decisions aids, can be incorporated into the information submitted in support of an application for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch.

“(C) PLAN TO ENGAGE WITH STAKEHOLDERS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall develop and make publicly available on the website of the Food and Drug Administration a plan to engage stakeholders on steps and factors for application holders and other stakeholders to consider in identifying approved prescription drugs that may be promising candidates for applications for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch.

“(D) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘Rx-to-nonprescription switch’ means the approval of an application, or supplemental application, as applicable, submitted under this section by the holder of an approved application for a prescription drug seeking approval to market such drug as a nonprescription drug, including for—

“(i) a full Rx-to-nonprescription switch, under which a drug previously approved for prescription use only is—

“(I) approved for nonprescription use under the same conditions as applied to the drug when approved for prescription use; or

“(II) approved for nonprescription use subject to one or more additional conditions for nonprescription use; and

“(ii) a partial Rx-to-nonprescription switch, under which the drug is approved for nonprescription use only under certain conditions described in the approved labeling, while the drug otherwise remains approved for prescription use only.

“(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to—

“(i) supersede or modify the authority of the Secretary under section 505G with respect to the regulation of OTC monograph drugs; or

“(ii) authorize the disclosure by the Secretary of confidential commercial information or trade secrets.”.

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that evaluates—

(A) the number of applications for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch approved during the period beginning on October 1, 2022, and ending on the date of the report;

(B) the number of drugs for which an application for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch was approved during such period subject to an additional condition for nonprescription use;

(C) among the drugs for which an application for a full or partial Rx-to-nonprescription switch was approved during such period, the average length of time from receipt by the Food and Drug Administration of the application to the approval of such application;

(D) the number of partial Rx-to-nonprescription switch applications approved during such period, and the number of applications for such a partial switch not approved;

(E) any barriers to timely and predictable review of applications for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch;

(F) engagement by the Food and Drug Administration with public stakeholders, including public meetings or additional activities to support review of applications for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch; and

(G) opportunities for collaboration between the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for the purpose of analyzing health insurance claims data for commonly prescribed drugs that appear to be suitable for an Rx-to-nonprescription switch.

(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term “Rx-to-nonprescription switch” has the meaning given such term in paragraph (7) of section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 244(b)), as added by subsection (a).

SEC. 6508. REGULATION OF CERTAIN NON-PRESCRIPTION DRUGS THAT ARE MARKETING WITHOUT AN APPROVED DRUG APPLICATION.

(a) DEVELOPMENT ADVICE TO SPONSORS OR REQUESTORS.—Section 505G(h) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355h(h)) is amended by striking “sponsors or requestors” and inserting “sponsors, requestors, or organizations nominated by sponsors or requestors to represent their interests in a proceeding”.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 505G(b)(2)(A)(iv)(III) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355h(b)(2)(A)(iv)(III)) is amended by striking “requestors” and inserting “sponsors or requestors”.

SEC. 6509. SUNSET DATES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Sections 744L and 744M of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–71; 379j–72) shall cease to be effective October 1, 2030.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 744N of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–73) shall cease to be effective January 31, 2031.

SEC. 6510. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this title shall take effect on October 1, 2025, or the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever is later, except that fees under part 10 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–71 et seq.) shall be assessed beginning October 1, 2025, regardless of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6511. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Notwithstanding the amendments made by this title, part 10 of subchapter C of chapter VII of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379j–71 et seq.), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, shall continue to be in effect with respect to assessing and collecting any fee required by such part for a fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2026.

TITLE VI—NO SURPRISES ACT IMPLEMENTATION

SEC. 6601. EXTENDING AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING FOR NO SURPRISES ACT IMPLEMENTATION.

Section 118(a) of division BB of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260) is amended—

(1) by striking “otherwise appropriated, to the Secretary of Health and Human Services” and inserting the following: “otherwise appropriated—

“(1) to the Secretary of Health and Human Services”;

(2) in paragraph (1), as so inserted, by striking “September 30, 2025.” and inserting “January 30, 2026; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in addition to amounts otherwise appropriated under paragraph (1), \$14,000,000 for

the period beginning on October 1, 2025, and ending on January 30, 2026.”.

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EXTENDERS

TITLE I—HEALTH CARE MATTERS

SEC. 7101. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR COLLECTION OF COPAYMENTS FOR HOSPITAL CARE AND NURSING HOME CARE.

Section 1710(f)(2)(B) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7102. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE NURSING HOME CARE TO CERTAIN VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.

Section 1710A(d) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7103. EXTENSION OF STAFF SERGEANT PARKER GORDON FOX SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 201(j) of the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-171; 38 U.S.C. 1720F note) is amended by striking “the date that is three years after the date on which the first grant is awarded under this section” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7104. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR EXPANSION OF RURAL ACCESS NETWORK FOR GROWTH ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.

Section 2(d) of the Sgt. Ketchum Rural Veterans Mental Health Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-21; 38 U.S.C. 1712A note) is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2026”.

TITLE II—BENEFITS

SEC. 7201. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT FOR QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS ON ADMINISTRATION OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO DETERMINATIONS REGARDING PRESUMPTIONS OF SERVICE CONNECTION BASED ON TOXIC EXPOSURE.

Section 202(b)(2) of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-168) is amended by striking “On a quarterly basis during the two-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,” and inserting “On a quarterly basis during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2026.”.

SEC. 7202. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT RELATING TO RESTORATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Section 3699(c)(2)(C) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7203. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY CLARIFICATION OF LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS TO PERFORM MEDICAL DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNDER PILOT PROGRAM FOR USE OF CONTRACT PHYSICIANS FOR DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS.

Section 2002(a)(4) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended by striking “five years” and inserting “six years”.

SEC. 7204. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO MAINTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE IN REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES.

Section 315(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

TITLE III—HOUSING

SEC. 7301. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS AND HOMELESS VETERANS WITH CHILDREN RE-INTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 2021A(f)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2026”.

SEC. 7302. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) GENERAL TREATMENT.—Section 2031(b) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

(b) ADDITIONAL SERVICES AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS.—Section 2033(d) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7303. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VERY LOW-INCOME VETERAN FAMILIES IN PERMANENT HOUSING.

Section 2044(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(9) \$660,000,000 for fiscal year 2026.”.

SEC. 7304. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR GRANT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Section 2061(d)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “2025” and inserting “2026”.

SEC. 7305. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING FOR DISABLED VETERANS RESIDING TEMPORARILY IN HOUSING OWNED BY A FAMILY MEMBER.

Section 2102A(e) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7306. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 2108(g) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “September 30, 2025” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

SEC. 7307. IMPROVEMENTS TO PARTIAL CLAIM PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER POWERS OF SECRETARY.—Section 3720(h) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking “of subsection (a)” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “of subsection (a) in conjunction with the purchase of a loan under section 3732(a)(2) of this title unless the Secretary determines the purchase would be made consistent with section 3732(d) of this title.”.

(b) ADMINISTRATION OF PARTIAL CLAIM PROGRAM.—Section 3737 of such title is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “first lien guaranteed loan for such property” and inserting “amount of indebtedness under the guaranteed loan that the Secretary does not purchase”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)(ii), by striking “120 days” and inserting “180 days”; and

(B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) An amount paid to the holder of a loan as a partial claim—

“(A) shall not alter the guaranty calculation specified by section 3703 of this title;

“(B) shall be included, for the purpose of a liquidation sale, in the same manner as any other advance allowed by the Secretary; and

“(C) shall not be claimed under the guaranty or increase the Secretary’s cost of acquisition of the property securing the defaulted loan.”.

(c) REQUIREMENTS OF LOAN HOLDER.—Section (d)(1) of such section is amended by inserting “and servicing the loan” after “documents”.

(d) DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “an individual who” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “a borrower who defaults on a partial claim shall be liable to the Secretary for any loss suffered by the Secretary with respect to such default, and such loss may be recovered in the same manner as any other debt due the United States. The Secretary shall not restore housing loan entitlement under section 3702(b) of this title until such loss is repaid in full.”; and

(B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

“(B) The Secretary may charge administrative costs, fees, and interest, as appropriate, with respect to any default under a partial claim in a manner similar to the interest and administrative costs charged under section 5315 of this title.”; and

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

“(2) Notwithstanding section 2410 of title 28, a non-judicial sale of real property to satisfy a loan guaranteed under this chapter shall discharge the property from a partial claim interest held by the Secretary, provided that the holder of the guaranteed loan conducts the non-judicial sale and distributes the sale proceeds, if any, in accordance with the State or local law where such property is situated.”.

(e) GUIDANCE IN ADVANCE OF REGULATIONS.—Subsection (h) of such section is amended to read as follows:

“(h) GUIDANCE IN ADVANCE OF REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may, before prescribing regulations, issue administrative guidance with respect to the Partial Claim Program under this section and the loss mitigation options prescribed under section 3732(d) of this title, including any additional terms, conditions, and requirements the Secretary determines necessary.”.

SEC. 7308. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS ON PARTIAL CLAIM PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND OTHER MATTERS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter until the Partial Claim Program terminates, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a report.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include, for the period covered by the report and disaggregated by quarter, the following:

(A) Key data on the performance of the Partial Claim Program, including—

(i) the number of partial claims filed and approved; and

(ii) the redefault and foreclosure rates of loans for which a partial claim was made.

(B) A comparison of the data described in subparagraph (A) with data on the performance of other loss mitigation options provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(C) The number of housing loans insured, guaranteed, or made by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code.

(D) The number of applications for housing loan benefits under such chapter denied.

(E) The number of housing loans insured, guaranteed, or made by the Secretary under such chapter refinanced under section 3710(a)(8) or 3712 of title 38, United States Code.

(F) The number of veterans who owe a payment on a mortgage associated with a loan insured, guaranteed, or made by the Secretary under such chapter that is at least—

- (i) 60 days late; and
- (ii) 90 days late.

(b) **ASSESSMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than one year before the Partial Claim Program terminates, the Comptroller General shall—

(A) conduct an assessment of the benefits and challenges of the Partial Claim Program; and

(B) submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to that assessment.

(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In conducting the assessment required by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall consider the following:

(A) The characteristics of borrowers for whom a partial claim was made compared to the characteristics of borrowers provided other loss mitigation options by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(B) The performance of loans guaranteed under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, following various loss mitigation actions.

(C) The information the Department considered in determining whether a borrower would benefit from a partial claim compared to other loss mitigation options.

(D) The costs to taxpayers of the Partial Claim Program compared to the costs of other loss mitigation options provided by the Department.

(E) Any similarities and differences in the Department's administration and use of the Partial Claim Program compared to the Department's administration and use of the COVID-19 Veterans Assistance Partial Claim Payment program established under subpart F of part 36 of title 38, Code of Regulations.

(F) The information the Department learned from the COVID-19 Veterans Assistance Partial Claim Payment program and the extent to which those lessons learned were applied to the Partial Claim Program.

(G) The types of information the Department collected to monitor the performance and effectiveness of the Partial Claim Program and how the Department used that information to make any needed adjustments to the program.

(H) How the use by the Department of partial claims compares to the use of partial claims by other Federal housing agencies, including, for each partial claim program—

- (i) the volume of loans for which partial claims have been made;
- (ii) the results for borrowers (including re-default and foreclosure rates); and
- (iii) the costs to taxpayers.

(c) **PARTIAL CLAIM PROGRAM DEFINED.**—In this section, the term "Partial Claim Program" means the Partial Claim Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs carried out under section 3737 of title 38, United States Code.

TITLE IV—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 7401. EXTENSION OF SUBPOENA AUTHORITY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 312(d)(7)(A) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "September 30, 2025" and inserting "September 30, 2026".

SEC. 7402. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL REPORT ON USE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE RELIEF.

Section 503(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "December 31, 2025" and inserting "December 31, 2026".

SEC. 7403. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO TRANSPORT INDIVIDUALS TO AND FROM FACILITIES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 111A(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "September 30, 2025" and inserting "September 30, 2026".

SEC. 7404. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO VENDEE LOAN PROGRAM.

Section 3733(a)(8) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "September 30, 2025" and inserting "September 30, 2026"; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking "September 30, 2025" and inserting "September 30, 2026".

SEC. 7405. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY.

Section 8118(a)(5) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "September 30, 2025" and inserting "September 30, 2026".

SEC. 7406. RETROACTIVE EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this division, except for the amendments made by section 7307, shall take effect as if enacted on September 30, 2025.

DIVISION H—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 8001. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) **STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.**—The budgetary effects of this division and divisions E through G shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) **SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.**—The budgetary effects of this division and divisions E through G shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

(c) **CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division and divisions E through G shall not be estimated—

- (1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act;
- (2) for purposes of an allocation to the Committee on Appropriations pursuant to section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; and

(3) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

(d) **BALANCES ON THE PAYGO SCORECARDS.**—Effective on the date of the adjournment of the first session of the 119th Congress, and for the purposes of the annual report issued pursuant to section 5 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 934) after such adjournment and for determining whether a sequestration order is necessary under such section, the balances on the PAYGO scorecards established pursuant to paragraphs (4) and (5) of section 4(d) of such Act shall be zero.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Cole of Oklahoma moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 873, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations, or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) and the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

□ 1830

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may

have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026.

History reminds us, Mr. Speaker, that shutdowns never change the outcome. The only cost is paid by the American people.

Over the last 43 days, the facts did not shift, the votes required did not shift, and the path forward did not change. The only thing that did move was the level of pain Democrats inflicted on the Nation.

For 6 long weeks, Americans have paid the price for a shutdown they neither caused nor deserved. The pain has been all too real for far too many Americans, including families struggling without paychecks, seniors on the brink of hunger with food assistance lapsed, airports in chaos, and communities bracing as programs that they rely on were stalled or stopped altogether.

With yesterday being Veterans Day, we especially reflect on the impact of this shutdown on those who served our Nation past and present. Our military families were left wondering if they would be paid. Thanks to President Trump, they were.

Yet, this is not how the greatest Nation in the world should function. Today that changes.

The legislation before us reopens the government, restores critical services, and puts an end to the needless hardship Democrats have inflicted on the country.

This bill supports our troops. It pays Federal workers. It fully funds SNAP benefits until September 30 of next year. It compensates our air traffic controllers right before a busy holiday season. In fact, it takes a holistic approach in ensuring Federal services and programs are operational. In the simplest terms, we are putting the government back to work for our people.

The bill is fundamentally the same responsible approach House Republicans offered on September 19, but with an important addition: three full-year appropriations bills for FY26. These bipartisan, bicameral, full-year appropriations bills cover the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs; Legislative Branch; Agriculture, Rural Development; and Food and Drug Administration divisions.

Once passed, we will have full-year funding in place for many of our most crucial programs. Military construction needs will be met for a full year, as will medical programs for our Nation's veterans. The legislative branch

will be properly resourced, including critical funding enhancements for the Capitol Police and for Member security. Agriculture, food and nutrition programs like WIC and SNAP will be fully funded to help vulnerable people in need.

Importantly, this legislation delivers Member-driven community project funding in both the military construction and agriculture divisions, which will direct resources back into the hands of the communities we represent. This was a top priority for the Appropriations Committee, and we achieved it while holding overall spending levels in check.

It is a responsible appropriations progress like this that causes me to reflect on an important message to our friends in the Democratic leadership. My sincere apologies to Minority Leaders JEFFRIES and SCHUMER, but after today they will no longer get to hold the government hostage, and they will not get to force a rushed, pork-filled Christmas omnibus at the end of the year.

Republicans have actively restored a responsible, line-by-line process. Over the next few months, we will continue this work and efforts through regular order. This Article I advancement is an accomplishment that every Member of this Chamber can be proud of regardless of party. Yet some still need to decide what they stand for today.

To my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, do they want the leverage or do they want to legislate? Do they treat Americans as collateral damage or as constituents, and do they answer to their caucus or their country?

For Republicans, the answer has been clear for the last 43 days. We have and we will continue to put Americans first. Democrats can join us. They have an opportunity to make the responsible choice to reopen our government and pass three official full-year appropriations bills. Mr. Speaker, eight Senate Democrats saw reason and did exactly that. I hope House Democrats do the same.

True courage is taking responsible action for the Nation even when politics makes it inconvenient. Let's reopen the government and get back to work.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 7 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill that does nothing, not one thing to address the Republican healthcare crisis amid a cost-of-living crisis.

More than 20 million Americans will have to pay double, even triple their monthly insurance premiums in just a matter of weeks, and this bill leaves families without even a glimmer of hope that their costs might go down.

Energy prices are up. Grocery prices are up. Housing costs are up. When two-thirds of American workers are living paycheck to paycheck, you can

understand why the most important issue on their mind is affordability.

What does President Trump say? Affordability is a "con job." How out of touch can he be? The President should start to listen to the American people, not his millionaire, billionaire friends.

President Trump and my Republican colleagues refuse to address this issue. They continue to avoid it. They were so intent on avoiding it that they shut down the government instead of dealing with it.

Speaker JOHNSON has indicated that he will not deal with it. He has shown no interest in holding a vote on extending the healthcare subsidies, which would prevent monthly costs from soaring.

Republicans have tried to say they will deal with this problem their own way, but they have no plan. They are trying to repeal the Affordable Care Act, as they have been trying to do unsuccessfully for 15 years. However, they are poised to succeed, which is why it is so important for this continuing resolution to fail.

President Trump and Republicans' plan is to drive up prices for everybody, compounding the cost-of-living crisis. More than 2 million Americans are expected to lose their health insurance next year because it has simply become too expensive.

There are more than 50 pages of healthcare provisions in this bill. Not one of them stops costs from skyrocketing at the beginning of next year. Not one of them offers relief to American families being squeezed tighter and tighter by the Republican crisis.

There is one group of people, however, who will receive some relief thanks to this bill: United States Senators who may have participated in an insurrection. Snuck into this bill at the eleventh hour by Senate Republicans is a provision to pay out at least a million dollars each to eight United States Senators implicated in the January 6 insurrection. Understand, this is a corrupt precedent. This is where Members can profit from their own votes. It is the fleecing of the American people, which they get and understand.

At the same time, this bill excludes a provision that would order a plaque to be hung that honors the police officers who put their lives on the line to defend our democracy from that same insurrection. What a contrast.

It is yet another instance of this administration's shameless corruption that is financially ruining American families. While there is \$230 million for the President to pay himself from the Department of Justice, \$8 million for some of his closest Senate allies, \$200 million for a pair of private jets for the Department of Homeland Security Secretary, and \$40 billion to Argentina, the American people are left with nothing but higher costs.

This bill also fails to fully cover the Toxic Exposures Fund, which was cre-

ated to support veterans exposed to burn pits and Agent Orange. We made a promise to stand by the men and women who served our country in uniform. This bill does not live up to that promise.

□ 1840

Mr. Speaker, Republicans need to stop taking photographs with veterans and then vote against their healthcare.

Those who lead in the appropriations process here believe in the constitutional power of the purse. Over the past month, President Trump has been firing Federal workers en masse. When his administration has failed there, they have made life so miserable for Federal workers that they had no choice but to leave.

Federal workers should be "traumatically affected." Those are the words of the Office of Management and Budget Director Russ Vought, an unelected bureaucratic.

The Federal workforce has dwindled by 200,000 since January, jeopardizing the public services that so many people rely on. I say: Spare us your false concern.

Mr. Speaker, since January, this administration has been stealing from our communities, withholding as much as \$410 billion in funding approved by Democrats and Republicans—House and Senate—signed into law. They are illegally blocking authorized funds from being distributed.

Even now, as we debate this bill, the Trump administration is arguing to the Supreme Court that they should be allowed to withhold food stamp funding that Congress lawfully approved. They were ordered by three separate courts to distribute food assistance and are still fighting to withhold it.

It is not connected to opening this government. They have the money. They have it now for food stamps. They just refuse to use it. Imagine using food as a political weapon. It is unspeakable and immoral. It seems like their only plan is to strip children of food assistance, while kicking their parents off their health insurance.

They have demonstrated that that is who they are. These are their true colors. We cannot expect Democrats to go along with any bipartisan funding deal if that agreement can be undone with a party line vote. Congress must assert its authority over the power of the purse.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote "no," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), our distinguished majority leader.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, for not only yielding but bringing this important bill to the floor.

Our appropriators worked tirelessly to negotiate a multi-bill package that

is part of this bill to reopen the government. We never should have been here, Mr. Speaker. Over a month ago, we tried, as Republicans, to prevent a government shutdown. We had a vote here on the House floor. Mr. Speaker, 99 percent of Republicans voted to keep the government open, and 99 percent of Democrats voted to shut it down.

Then that bill went over to the Senate. We watched for 42 days, where time and time again Democrats, just to appease their most radical base, continued to vote in unison to shut the government down.

Mr. Speaker, during that shutdown, we saw millions of families experience pain. They experienced pain and suffering that Democrats themselves acknowledged they imposed on the American people. They said over and over again—and we have quote after quote from Democrats during this shutdown—that they needed to oppose the suffering to get leverage. They wanted to use the American people as pawns to get leverage. Mr. Speaker, for what?

They ultimately filed an alternative bill. It was a \$1.5 trillion mad spending spree that included things like \$200 billion of taxpayer funding for illegals to get taxpayer benefits, while they gutted the \$50 billion rural healthcare fund that we put in place in the working families tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, anybody who comes up here and says they care about healthcare is also advocating to gut the \$50 billion rural healthcare fund to provide \$200 billion in taxpayer-funded benefits for illegals. It is insanity.

If we want to look at where this all began, as some on the other side, Democrats, want to talk about a healthcare crisis, the healthcare law of the land is what many refer to as ObamaCare. Let's remember the original name that Democrats gave that bill when they created it. They called it the Affordable Care Act. Only Democrats voted for it. Republicans knew it was going to be anything but affordable. It was going to interfere with the doctor-patient relationship. Unfortunately, it has done that.

If we want to talk about affordable, maybe the only other bill that is more laughable in its name is the Inflation Reduction Act. That is another product brought to us by Democrat-only votes. The Inflation Reduction Act ushered in the inflation under Joe Biden that we are still trying to shake today.

Mr. Speaker, since the Affordable Care Act started, Americans have seen over 80 percent increases in their healthcare costs because of a bill created by Democrats that they want to now blame on Republicans. I understand why they would want to try to now pawn that off on somebody else.

If we then look over time, during COVID, they created a temporary relief fund, Mr. Speaker, not to individuals but to insurance companies. Democrats called it "temporary" in the law. They created a temporary COVID relief tax credit to insurance companies to bail

out big insurance companies who were seeing record profits. That is now what they want Republicans to renew.

It is an insurance company bailout that Democrats created to be temporary. They set it up to expire. They are now saying that the world is going to end if that insurance company bailout doesn't get renewed.

At the same time we as Republicans worked to actually lower premiums for families, they fought it every step of the way. That is right. We had a bill we passed through this House just a few months ago in the working families tax credit.

Part of that bill was called the cost share reduction. It was scored by the CBO to lower premiums for families by over 12 percent. What happened? By the way, every Democrat voted against that, too, because they have never cared about lowering premiums.

That bill goes to the Senate. Senate Democrats worked overtime to get that provision removed. If we look at the Senate Committee on the Budget website, they still brag that they removed that provision that would have lowered premiums for families.

Republicans absolutely have worked and will continue, by the way, to work to lower premiums for families. Make no mistake that the high premiums that everybody faces today are a result of the inaptly named Affordable Care Act and the many failures associated with it.

Mr. Speaker, this bill today is about ending the misery Democrats created on families. This is not just about funding the government. It is not just about solving other problems that we should be working to solve. It is about getting the government back open, while not holding the American people hostage.

That is what has disgusted the American people most during this shutdown. It should never have happened. It has caused real suffering for American families. Our men and women in uniform had to wonder whether or not they were going to get paid. Air traffic controllers already had a really stressful job and then had to show up for work without getting paid. They missed multiple paychecks.

We know a lot of those air traffic controllers are going to work jobs as Uber drivers. They aren't able to show up for work because they have bills and rent due. They are trying to put food on their table, and Democrats want to vote "no" tonight to keep denying them food.

□ 1850

The 42 million SNAP recipients are people who are low-income and who need those food benefits.

Mr. Speaker, if Democrats vote "no" today, then they are voting to deny those 42 million low-income families basic food needs. Mr. Speaker, don't talk about how much you care about low-income people and vote "no" tonight to deny them food, basic services,

basic things that American families need who shouldn't be part of the leverage Democrats want to show their radical base, that they are fighting Donald Trump because they are upset with the results of the election from November.

It is time to end this madness, Mr. Speaker. Let's get this government back open. Let's go negotiate our differences, which are many, but let's do it while not continuing to hold the American people hostage.

I urge my Democratic colleagues who have voted relentlessly to shut this government down and impose this suffering on the American people to stop. Stop imposing the suffering. Let's open the government, and let's get back to the work of the American people.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I remind the majority leader that for a 60-year-old couple earning \$82,800 per year, their premiums will rise by over \$17,000. This is a 255 percent increase.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), who is the distinguished ranking member of the Agriculture and Rural Development Subcommittee.

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Drug Administration Subcommittee, I rise to oppose this bill. Though it does represent, for the most part, solid bipartisan work to provide investments in agriculture and rural America, I am disappointed that the rest of it falls far short of the needs of most Americans.

Healthcare providers and patients are frustrated and frightened by the imminent skyrocketing of healthcare costs caused by the loss of the ACA tax credits and cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, and lifesaving biomedical research.

My constituent, Ms. Angela Hoomes, is unable to walk without debilitating pain. She is worried that, without the tax credits, she won't be able to afford health insurance to complete the multiple back surgeries she needs.

For many Georgians, healthcare is a matter of life and death. Our Republican colleagues could have corrected this in the Rules Committee, but they rejected an amendment last night that would have lowered healthcare premium costs. To me, that is unconscionable. So are the administration's actions during the shutdown.

As a Christian, I am outraged that USDA used the shutdown to illegally withhold SNAP from 42 million Americans. USDA had the chance to do the right thing and use designated contingency funds but rejected it. When ordered to do so by the courts, they fought it all the way to the Supreme Court to keep hungry families from receiving food.

America produces the highest quality, safest, most affordable, and most abundant food, fiber, and medicine anywhere in the world. To that end, this bill provides many welcome investments.

It fully funds SNAP and WIC, replenishes the SNAP and WIC contingency funds, and fully funds cash value vouchers for fruits and vegetables for women and children.

It also helps rural America by providing \$1 billion in single family direct home loans, \$120 million over the House level, and funding water and wastewater programs at \$446 million, both issues that Democrats tried to address in full committee.

The bill provides \$1.85 billion for the Agricultural Research Service and \$1.67 billion for NIFA, protecting farmers, small businesses, and families against President Trump's budget request to eliminate land grant university research and extension activities across the country.

I am also pleased to see that the bill language requires the USDA to notify Congress before canceling grants over \$1 million.

The agriculture portion of this bill does make positive steps in the right direction. The bill discards many of the harmful policy riders in the House bill, yet it does not go far enough to negate House language falsely questioning the safety of Mifepristone and encouraging the FDA to explore liability protections for certain infant formula manufacturers, over which the agency has absolutely no jurisdiction whatsoever.

While the overall funding package may reopen the government for 1 month or 2, this bill does not address the breach of trust that this administration has demonstrated since January.

They have failed to follow the law, and we cannot trust that they will even execute this bill if we vote on it today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BISHOP. They cut SNAP by 20 percent in the big, ugly bill this summer, dismantled and defunded Federal programs, fired Federal workers, and illegally ignored court orders.

This bill fails to address the healthcare crisis, and bipartisan outrage has erupted over language in this bill to pay millions of taxpayer dollars to a handful of Senators whose phone records were subpoenaed in relation to the January 6 investigation.

It is a bad bill, and I oppose it.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER), who is the distinguished chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my longtime friend and colleague and the chairman of Appropriations Committee, Mr. COLE, for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5371. I look forward to reopening the government. The shutdown has gone on long enough, and it is time to end it.

Yesterday was Veterans Day. It is a timely reminder of the commitment

our Armed Forces personnel have made and the responsibility we have to take care of those who serve our Nation.

The military construction and veterans affairs component of the legislation meets that goal. The legislation includes \$133.3 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, including \$113.8 billion in discretionary funding for VA medical care.

It includes critical funding for mental health services, telehealth services, veteran homelessness programs, medical research programs, and rural health initiatives.

It invests in information technology, including robust investment in VA's electronic health record modernization.

It fully funds all mandatory veteran benefits, including veteran disability compensation programs, education benefits, and vocational rehabilitation and employment training.

Nearly \$20 billion is for the Department of Defense military construction program. This amount funds nearly 300 projects at military bases around the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. It includes \$2 billion to improve and maintain housing for servicemembers and their families. It provides requested resources for the American Battle Monuments Commission, Armed Forces Retirement Home, and operations at Arlington National Cemetery.

I thank Mr. COLE for his endless work to get us to this point.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), who is the distinguished ranking member of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this slush fund for Senators bill that will force healthcare costs to explode for millions of Americans.

In fact, this legislation guarantees only two things: Republican Senators suspected of helping Trump try to steal an election will get a whole lot richer, and life will get more expensive for everyone else.

That is because this bill adds rocket fuel to Republicans' larger assault on Americans' access to quality, affordable healthcare.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, Republicans already slashed \$1 trillion from Medicaid, \$500 billion from Medicare, and let Trump steal billions in medical research. With this bill, Republicans dump massive healthcare price hikes on struggling Americans. Millions will be priced out of any coverage at all, which will drive coverage costs up and health services down for all of us.

It is a health budget nightmare for America's families and a slush fund lottery win for eight Republican Senators. That is because the one thing we can all agree on, unless you are Jeffrey Epstein's best friend in the White House, is that the cost-of-living is out of control. Rent, home insurance, and electric bills are all soaring. The cost of beef, coffee, and vegetables just keep climbing.

People are really struggling to get by, yet Donald Trump continues to block SNAP benefits to 42 million struggling seniors, parents, and veterans.

□ 1900

How anyone could swipe food from the plates of nearly 20 million children like that is simply disgusting, but that same moral bankruptcy is embedded in this bill.

This bill unleashes huge health insurance hikes on 203,000 people in my district alone. Mr. Speaker, 82,000 people will lose coverage altogether due to the impact of the big, ugly law and soaring ACA prices.

Worse, this bill also reneges on our commitment to veterans. As the ranking member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I take our promises to veterans personally and seriously.

Just this summer, I secured bipartisan support for my amendment to restore \$51.7 billion in advance funding for the Toxic Exposures Fund. This is funding, mind you, that President Trump sought in his budget.

Yet, as Republicans slipped a slush fund for Senators into this bill, they gutted a critical funding protection for veterans.

Just so we are all clear, average Americans will see their kitchen table budget blow up from the health coverage price hikes, and veterans will see their future healthcare funding for toxic exposures put in jeopardy, all so billionaires can keep getting huge tax breaks.

It is hard to pick between the worst moral outrages behind this bill. Was it covering up for Epstein's best friend for nearly 2 months just so Republicans could vacation and avoid negotiating a better healthcare plan for our struggling families, or is it the slush fund that personally enriches Republican Senators and will haunt everyone who votes for this bill?

Well, House Democrats will oppose this partisan spending bill that guts America's healthcare, and we will keep fighting to extend healthcare tax credits.

Donald Trump and Republicans broke their promise to lower costs, and this bill certainly cements that betrayal.

Democrats will stand by our promise to lower costs, and we will make sure every American knows Republicans are responsible for this devastating healthcare crisis.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS), my good friend and

the distinguished chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371, which will finally put an end to the Democrat-led government shutdown.

Millions of Americans have suffered because Democrats have refused to reopen the government, harming those who depend on SNAP benefits, Federal workers, Border Patrol agents, and our troops, who were uncertain about their next paycheck.

This legislation extends government funding to the end of January 2026, thereby blocking attempts to force a budget-busting omnibus at the last minute before Christmas. It also includes the FY 2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Republicans have effectively locked in disciplined, flat spending levels while supporting the Trump administration's policy priorities.

The Agriculture bill provides \$26.65 billion in discretionary spending, which is level with the current amounts while also including community project funding.

This bill provides critical funding support to America's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities. It ensures both USDA and FDA can safeguard our Nation's food and drug supply and fully fund nutrition programs, including SNAP and WIC.

Additionally, the bill closes the hemp loophole that has resulted in the spread of unregulated, intoxicating hemp-derived products that are being sold online and in gas stations and corner stores across the country. Many of these products are accessible and attractive to children, resulting in thousands of calls to U.S. poison control centers, with more than 30 percent involving children aged 5 years and younger. This provision is supported by 39 State attorneys general and over 81 national and State public health, medical, law enforcement, and other organizations.

It is beyond disappointing that our colleagues on the other side of the aisle will soon be voting to continue the chaos and uncertainty of a government shutdown.

This is what responsible Republican governance looks like. We stared down the radical Democrats' outrageous, budget-busting demands and held the line for hardworking American taxpayers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I thank Appropriations Committee Chairman COLE for his leadership throughout this process, and I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), the distinguished ranking member of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Senate's amendment to H.R. 5371 because, once again, the Senate has put other interests ahead of those of the American people.

Today's backroom deal does nothing to stop 20 million Americans who will see their healthcare premiums double or triple. It does absolutely nothing to stop provisions in the reconciliation package that will strip 15 million people of their Medicaid coverage.

These cuts will have a resounding impact on individuals and the healthcare industry and economy as a whole. Safety net hospitals like Montefiore in my district and federally funded clinics like Boriken in East Harlem face having to eliminate services or completely close.

Families, seniors, and children who go to these clinics and hospitals cannot afford to lose healthcare coverage.

On top of that, Mr. Speaker, the Legislative Branch bill was done unilaterally, not with a consultation of both sides. It was done on its own in the Senate, in the dark, in cahoots with a bunch of people. It includes a provision that will line the pockets of eight Senators that we know of by allowing them to sue the government for millions of dollars if the Department of Justice subpoenas their phone records or seeks a lawful nondisclosure order.

While families in my district are stretching every single dollar just to pay for food and rent, Senators want to get a personal payout if law enforcement dares to hold them accountable.

At every turn of this shutdown and fight for healthcare access, Republicans and the Trump administration have tried to inflict suffering as much as possible.

For weeks, the administration held food stamps hostage, and even when some States complied with a court ruling to release full benefits, the President demanded that they be clawed back. Even when Governors stepped up and said they don't want people to go hungry, the administration ran to court, Mr. Speaker, to take \$6.20 away from poor people. Who does that? Explain that to me. Who takes \$6.20 away from a single mom or a hungry senior?

That is the state of America today. It is unbelievable, and here we are to vote on this. I will be casting my vote as a "no." In fact, it will be a "hell no" tonight.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN), my very good friend and the chair of the House Republican Conference.

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, God, I love the compassion and the passion on the other side of the aisle. Democrats are worried about taking money from families. Well, you know what? You all

can do the right thing and vote "yes." If not, you are the ones who are taking money from needy families, not us, because yes means we want to feed the families. We want to have SNAP programs. No means we don't fund those programs. See how simple that is? Keep on with the rhetoric. I mean, it is cute, but the American people don't buy it.

Listen, for the past 40 days, Democrats have inflicted needless pain on hardworking Americans. They stranded millions of travelers. They denied food assistance for hungry families. How did they do that? When you vote "no" to continue funding, that means you deny food stamps for hungry families. No means no, you don't want to pay them. Yes, like the Republicans vote, that means, yes, we do want to pay them.

Democrats left our troops wondering when they would get their next paycheck, and for what, Mr. Speaker? Democrats did that to use the American people as leverage. Don't take my word for it. Take theirs. It was leverage for more wasteful Washington spending, spending that no one other than the radical left ever wanted.

To remind the American people, Democrats wanted to waste \$1.5 trillion of their hard-earned tax dollars. What did Democrats get in return? Democrats got nothing. Democrats got nothing because Republicans refused to waste the American people's money.

Democrats did not get a dime for radical climate change, not a dollar for taxpayer-funded benefits for illegals, and not one single concession to the radical far-left base.

□ 1910

Millions of Americans whose lives were upended by the Democratic shutdown will remember this.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Michigan.

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding additional time.

Mr. Speaker, the American people will remember who held them hostage for petty political reasons and who fought to put America first.

Now that the shameful charade is over, House Republicans will continue our work on behalf of the American people. We will restore regular order to the appropriations process. We will continue to fulfill the mandate of the American people, and we will keep delivering results for American people because that is what we are here to do and not to play politics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are advised to direct their comments to the Chair and not to engage in personalities.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I have the greatest honor to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the distinguished Speaker Emerita and, I might add, probably the epitome of the best Speaker that

this Nation has ever had, in addition to which millions of Americans have healthcare coverage through the Affordable Care Act because of Speaker PELOSI. She is also Italian American.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, and a grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, Madam Chair once and the future chair of the Committee on Appropriations. I thank her for her leadership and her kind words.

I take heed, Mr. Speaker, of your comment to address my remarks to you and not to your colleagues, so I can say to you and perhaps you can tell them: Either they don't know what they are talking about, or they don't care about meeting the needs of the American people.

Did any one of them vote to eliminate a need for preexisting conditions in healthcare? Not one of them.

Did any one of them vote to say to children that, until they are 26 years old, they have access to your policy? Not one of them.

Did any of them vote to eliminate being a woman as being a preexisting medical condition? Not one of them.

The list goes on and on.

Did any one of them vote for the Affordable Care Act, which, Mr. Speaker, you can tell them was paid for? It was paid for. Later, when we decided that we could extend the tax credits further so that more people could have more access to care, did anyone vote for that? No.

Mr. Speaker, all they have done is try to eliminate access to healthcare in our country. The public is catching on to them.

You might tell them: If a woman is born with a child who has a heart condition, she is out of luck with what they are proposing.

If a father gets a stroke, forget about it.

If you have a sibling with a disability, they don't care.

If your wife has breast cancer, you have big bills to pay because they want to take away healthcare, whether it is Medicaid to tens of millions of people, half a trillion dollars for Medicare for seniors and people with disabilities, and millions of dollars added to the cost for families to access the Affordable Care Act.

The list goes on and on. Either they don't know, or they don't care.

I will say one more thing. As a grandmother and mother, how about the President of the United States having a Halloween party on Halloween night and saying to the Supreme Court: Please don't make me feed the children or the poor people in our country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, going to the Supreme Court for that means that "cruelty" has not even come close to the word that is needed for that kind of

behavior. This is the worst President for children that America has ever seen.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOORE), my very good friend and distinguished member of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. MOORE of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371, which includes full funding for the legislative branch. I am honored to serve as the vice chairman of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee, and I am grateful to Chairman VALADAO for his leadership on that committee.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a long road to bring this bill to the floor. It is a road that was made significantly longer by a totally unnecessary Schumer shutdown that we have been living in. The bill before us not only reopens the entire government, but it ensures that the House and its supporting agencies remain working for the American people.

The bill invests in safety and security. It increases funding for the Capitol Police and provides support for security programs through the House Sergeant at Arms. It is tough on foreign adversaries, including language that I wrote preventing the purchase of technology tied to the Chinese Communist Party.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman COLE for his leadership and Ranking Member ESPAILLAT and our subcommittee members and their staff and our staff for their work, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the distinguished ranking member of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member DELAURO for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should vote today for affordable health insurance for Americans and reduce its rising costs. Instead, in the dead of night, eight Senate Republicans slipped into this bill a payola for themselves, literally raking in millions of dollars to themselves.

This payola is called corruption. It is corruption. Millions of taxpayer dollars now are slated for Senators GRAHAM, HAGERTY, HAWLEY, SULLIVAN, TUBERVILLE, JOHNSON, LUMMIS, and BLACKBURN. Each is teed up to personally rake in a minimum of \$500,000 up to \$1.5 million.

Meanwhile, the American people need more affordable health insurance, but these Senators, with their House allies, are lining their own pockets. I say: No more tax breaks to billionaires and no payoffs to U.S. Senators. This is what happens when power serves itself instead of the people.

This isn't leadership. It is corruption disguised as legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 10 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, let's cleanse America of disgusting corruption. Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE), my very good friend and distinguished member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman COLE for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, over 40 days after the Senate Democrats shut down the Federal Government, we are finally reopening. The result of the shutdown has been thousands of employee furloughs, major disruptions to our air travel, servicemembers going without pay, delayed food assistance for low-income individuals and families, and much, much more.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Appropriations, the responsibility of funding the Federal Government is one that I take very seriously, especially in light of our Nation's debt surpassing \$38 trillion.

The performative tactics that we have watched over the last 7 weeks have truly been a disservice to Americans. My friends across the aisle should never have put leverage or politics over those people who they represent.

The most important thing right now is that we get back to work, making sure that the Federal Government can provide the essential services that people depend on and that Congress can continue working to pass full-year funding legislation, providing responsible Federal spending and funding those essential services.

Mr. Speaker, we are making significant progress with the inclusion of these three appropriations bills, but our work is far from over. I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this deal, vote to end this unnecessary shutdown, and help us get back to the business of hardworking Americans across this country.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the distinguished ranking member of the Defense Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump and Republicans control the entire government. For 42 days, Republicans shut it down. Why? It was because they refuse to extend tax credits to help millions of Americans afford their healthcare. If that wasn't bad enough, President Trump even withheld food assistance during the shutdown. Hunger should never be used as a weapon.

□ 1920

The CR continues the Republican healthcare crisis. The Speaker has already said he won't hold a vote to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits to reduce healthcare costs for Americans.

Now my constituents are going to have to choose between heating their homes, feeding their families, or taking their children to the doctor. It is a terrible deal for the American people.

Americans deserve an open and transparent government that works for them. They deserve access to affordable healthcare and nutritious food for their families. That is what Democrats are fighting for. I wish the President and Republicans would join us in this fight and share our priorities.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD), my very good friend and member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, in the words of Yogi Berra: "This seems like *deja vu* all over again."

Fifty-nine days ago, I stood at this very lectern debating the ranking member and a friend of mine over the continuing resolution to keep our government open.

On September 19, we did our work in this body, but Senate Democrats chose to hold America hostage with the Schumer shutdown. Democrats in Congress, including the minority whip, shamefully admitted they were using the misery they inflicted on the American people as leverage to achieve their leftist wish list of demands, slowly twisting the heads of the American people in a vice.

Tonight, I am relieved to say the misery of the Schumer shutdown is on our doorstep.

Mr. Speaker, this package proves that when Republicans stay united and put America first, we can govern with strength, compassion, and common sense. Tonight, Mr. Speaker, we will reopen the government and liberate the Schumer hostages.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition of this deeply flawed bill because the American people deserve better.

Since Trump returned to office, Republicans have created an affordability nightmare, a mass transfer of hard-earned taxpayer dollars to billionaires.

In my district alone, more than 350,000 people are facing skyrocketing healthcare costs or cuts to critical services. Republicans shut down the government instead of finding bipartisan solutions to keep care affordable and took a 7-week paid hiatus, doubling healthcare costs for working families, cutting off food assistance right before Thanksgiving, and letting

Trump spend his days pardoning insurrectionists, enriching billionaires, cozying up to dictators, and building himself a new ballroom, all while taking food away from families in need.

Now Senate Republicans want to reward themselves with a taxpayer-funded handout. It is shameful. House Republicans should be here doing their jobs, not making life harder for working families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "no" vote.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YAKYM). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to engage in personalities toward the President.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), my very good friend and chairman of the House Budget Committee.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, the Democrats rejecting a clean CR, shutting the government down, creating all of the havoc, the pain and suffering for our fellow Americans is so obviously disingenuous.

They never vote against clean CRs. For 4 years under Biden, you all didn't reject one clean CR. CHUCK SCHUMER in 44 years never rejected a clean CR.

Mr. Speaker, what is it about? They say policy. They put forward a proposal, Mr. Chairman. They said it is about healthcare, healthcare for illegals. They repeal work requirements for able-bodied adults. That is an 80/20 issue in this country. They put forward a spending bill of \$1.5 trillion. That is twice the discretionary budget.

Mr. Chairman, they are spending more money than we have ever spent outside of COVID. That is their counterproposal. It is not only disingenuous. It is unserious.

What is it about? It is about politics. It is about resisting and fighting and undermining Donald Trump. Here is the deal: They are not fighting and resisting Donald Trump. They are undermining the will of the American people that gave Trump the Presidency.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARRINGTON. They undermine the will of the people who overwhelmingly elected President Trump and gave him the mandate of the America First agenda. They are not resisting us. They are posturing and placating the radical left. They are holding back what the American people wanted and that was a new direction for this country.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), the distinguished ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to understand that when

the Affordable Care Act was adopted, it was adopted for middle-class people who could not afford health insurance. They had no other option. They had nowhere to go. You just would end up without health insurance.

I have constituents coming to me now crying because their insurance is going from \$500 a month to \$1,500 a month. That is an increase of \$1,000 a month. Who could afford that? No one in the middle class.

At the end of 2024 last year during a Democratic administration, the number of insured Americans was at a record high of about 95 percent. Democrats worked for that. Then Trump comes in and the Republicans with their big, ugly bill, and they make cuts to Medicaid, cuts to hospitals and nursing homes, and no funding to extend the ACA tax credits.

What is going to happen? More and more people have no health insurance. That is the bottom line. They will not have health insurance, and the Republicans don't seem to care. I want you to know that the Democrats care, and we will continue to fight for you.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN), my very good friend.

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Oklahoma for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Guam is home to 3,372 Federal employees, more than 43,000 SNAP recipients, over 9,000 WIC recipients, and more than 20,000 veterans, all of whom have been impacted by this shutdown. If we continue to put politics over our country, my constituents will continue to suffer.

Simply put, this gets us back on track, ensures funding for those who need it is in place and turns the lights back on. This bill ensures that families receive the assistance they need, veterans have access to care, and our island is reimbursed for the sacrifice we made to keep Federal programs running during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to deliver for the American people. The time for deliberation is when the government is open and people have the assistance they need.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL), the distinguished ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, the destruction that is taking place in America's healthcare system during these 10 months is unbelievable. They have eviscerated the National Institutes of Health. They have cut back on the Centers for Disease Control and billions of dollars for Medicaid for a tax cut for the wealthy. Wait till you see what is coming to America's hospitals after the next election. It is so contrived they waited until after the election to implement it.

Mr. Speaker, 24 million people are likely to lose health insurance if we

don't implement these tax credits as suggested. The emergency room is going to be back in full force now because this is where people will go for their healthcare.

All of this is taking place to justify a tax cut for people at the very top. Here is the real kicker: Our Republican colleagues of fiscal probity borrowed the money for the tax cuts.

In 2017, it was \$2.4 trillion. In the last tax bill, almost \$4 trillion is borrowed for a tax cut for wealthy people. Whatever happened to the fiscal soundness that the Republican Party used to lecture everybody on.

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Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), my very good friend.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman COLE for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, if this were a library, we would have the fiction side over there and the nonfiction side over here. The only thing that is not fiction, however, is their consistent criticism of the healthcare system known as ObamaCare that they created. That is what this fight seems to be about, and that is the one end of things that is truthful.

Today, Mr. Speaker, after 6 weeks of lots of pain and no gain, they are going to vote again to keep the government closed. They are going to vote again—they are whipping their votes—so they would not be paying Federal workers and won't be funding essential programs like SNAP and undoing the chaos at our airports.

I spent the last 43 days in my district talking with these groups, talking with SNAP, talking with Head Start, seeing their pain, realizing it, understanding it. Some of my colleagues did the same, but, shockingly, they are still going to vote to keep the government closed and keep this funding from being delivered.

It is time to fix the damage that Democrats have caused. With this vote tonight, Republicans will restore SNAP payments and get TSA, air traffic controllers, and Federal workers paid.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for the additional time.

You know what, Mr. Speaker, yesterday was Veterans Day. Veterans didn't fight for the red. They didn't fight for the blue. They fought for the red, white, and blue. Maybe tonight we can follow their example.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE).

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, this bill fails to address the fundamental needs of families across our country.

Americans have made it crystal clear that affordability is their number one

concern. President Trump and Republicans promised to lower costs on day one, and that has been one big broken promise.

Healthcare premiums are skyrocketing because Republicans refuse to extend the ACA tax credits, causing healthcare costs to go up for everyone.

Over 4 million people will be forced off their coverage next year because it is too expensive. This is on top of soaring prices for food, energy, and housing. That is unacceptable for the wealthiest nation in the world.

Republicans who say they support affordable healthcare should be standing up for their constituents rather than falling in line behind President Trump.

I am going to keep fighting for affordable healthcare and lower costs. The American people deserve better.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOODEN), my very good friend.

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, throughout this sham and shame of a shutdown, we have heard so many lies from the Democrats. Over the last 45 days, and especially the last 45 minutes, I have heard them say this is an evil bill, that Republicans don't care about the disabled, and that Trump is the worst President in history for children. They have said that Republicans are to blame for the fentanyl crisis, that Republicans shouldn't take photos with veterans. January 6, of course, they mention that. They have said Republicans are corrupt. They have said that Republicans are starving kids.

What they haven't said is the one thing that this bill does, which is to open up the government. Not one Democrat is getting up here saying this bill opens the government.

Let me remind them and my colleagues and the American people that this bill opens the government tonight, and the American people have Republicans to thank for ending this shutdown and opening the government.

I urge a "yes" vote. I am proud to vote "yes." I am so disappointed in my Democratic colleagues because, for the life of me, throughout my time in the House, I have heard them talk about how wonderful it is to keep the government open and that a shutdown is so bad and can never happen. Tonight, they won't even admit that this bill opens the government, and this is what we need for this country tonight.

I urge a "yes" vote.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGAN).

Ms. BARRAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the Republican spending bill that makes healthcare more expensive for hardworking Americans.

While Republicans were on their 7-plus week vacation, all of our constituents were receiving notices of premium increases. A constituent of mine, a lifelong educator, has been told that her premiums will jump from \$383 to nearly \$1,000.

Meanwhile, Trump and Republicans can find money for a fancy ballroom.

They can give tax breaks to billionaires. They even included millions of dollars in cash payments in this bill for eight Republican Senators. If anyone else in government gave themselves millions in taxpayer money, they would go to prison. For Americans trying to afford healthcare? Not \$1 in tax credits.

House Democrats are united against this corrupt bill and will keep fighting to protect America's healthcare.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, it has been an interesting debate.

Frankly, as a couple of my colleagues have suggested, a lot of the rhetoric on the other side hasn't had much to do with the legislation in front of us. My friends chose all on their own to shut the government down 43 days ago.

During that time, soldiers have had to worry about getting paid. The only reason they were paid is because the President of the United States managed to pull a rabbit out of a hat twice or we would have military families completely unpaid.

We have our air traffic controllers. Most of us flew here today, yesterday, or in recent days. They are keeping the skies as safe as they can, but they haven't gotten paid.

We are in this Capitol Building. We are under the protection of the Capitol Police. They do a splendid job. They keep doing their job. They haven't been paid.

We have people who are in desperate need of some of the services this government has promised to give them, SNAP and WIC, at risk unless we pass this legislation tonight.

We can have all of these debates about all of these other issues. As a matter of fact, my friend, the Speaker, his counterpart in the United States Senate, the majority leader, and the President have said when you open the government, we will be happy to talk to you about some of these issues, but you are not going to shut down the government, punish the American people, put people's lives at risk, and think we are going to sit down and negotiate with you under those circumstances. That is not going to happen.

We told you 43 days ago, from bitter experience, government shutdowns don't work. They never achieve the objective that you announce. Guess what. You haven't achieved that objective yet, and you are not going to. We did the same thing twice, so I am not saying that we have clean hands over here. You guys did it on DACA. It didn't work there. It is not going to work here.

The only people who have suffered have been the American people, the people whom we are all here to serve.

Let's keep the focus on getting the government back open.

I would also add—and I appreciate this very much—there have been robust discussions back and forth, and we

have three appropriations bills attached to this. They are appropriations bills that do important things.

The Agriculture bill will make sure that people who rely on WIC and SNAP don't have to worry about another government shutdown between now and September 30 of next year.

The Legislative Branch bill will make sure that the Capitol Police and everybody else who is staff who allows this Chamber to function don't have to worry about getting paid until September 30 of next year.

Obviously, military construction and, more importantly, veterans rely on benefit commitments we have made. Passage of this bill makes sure that we fulfill those commitments between now and September 30 of next year, and we buy the time to sit down to rationally and responsibly negotiate other appropriations bills that we can bring, I hope, on a bipartisan basis to this floor to keep the government open.

I would just ask my friends to reflect on that. I hope some of you feel the weight of that decision. I know you do. I hope you can vote to keep the government open. There is no excuse to shut it down. The United States Senate operated to keep it open in a bipartisan fashion. Now, it took them a long time to do it, but they got there. Let's not follow that example.

When they finally got the job done, they sent us a product. It is not a perfect product. It has some things in it I don't like, but frankly, if we had kept the government open, we would never have been in this situation in the first place.

I would just ask my friends to remember their constituents. I know they are serious about the points they make. Reopen the government and raise your issues. Let's see if we can come to a negotiated settlement, but let's not punish the American people.

A "no" vote on this, again, means soldiers and military families don't get paid. A "no" vote means that people in need of SNAP and WIC might not get it. A "no" vote means the people who allow us to come here to debate and work won't get paid either.

I can go down the list of horrors. It is pretty simple. This is a vote about two things: opening the Government of the United States, which you willfully tried to shut down. Fortunately, you did not succeed in that in this Chamber, but some of your colleagues, using arcane Senate rules, did manage to do it but finally came to their senses. You ought to pay attention to those people. They said enough is enough. Let's reopen the government.

I urge my colleagues to do that today. I hope it is done in a bipartisan way.

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

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK), the distinguished Democratic whip.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump said the cost-of-living crisis is fake news, "a con job by the Democrats."

Mr. Speaker, 60 percent of Americans can't afford a basic quality of life, 45 percent have had to skip a doctor's appointment or a prescription because they can't afford it, and 41 percent are living with medical debt. The American people are simply not making it.

Not only is that crisis real, it is a crisis that Republicans promised to solve. Voters believed them. Now, after a 54-day hiatus, what are Republicans doing? They are voting to raise the cost of living. They are voting to make it even harder to get by, not by some marginal amount. They are doubling, tripling, and quadrupling monthly premiums.

What is their defense? They are looking people in the eye and flat-out gaslighting them: Costs aren't up; costs are down.

Trump says: "I don't want to hear about the affordability." Well, get used to hearing about it. You are going to hear about it a lot because people are feeling it every single day. People can't make rent. They can't afford their prescriptions. They can't afford to take their kid to a doctor. They can't find childcare. When they find it, they can't afford that, either. Grocery and utility bills are spiking. This is the crisis of our time, and it is about to get exponentially worse because of the GOP's craven allegiance to billionaires over working people.

The cost-of-living crisis is not fake news. It is not a perception issue. It is daily life for the people that we all represent. Let's do something about it. Let's reject this budget. Let's stop the healthcare cuts. Let's stop the premium hikes. Let's stop the hospital closures, and let's stop the billionaire giveaways.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, this bill fails to prevent healthcare costs from skyrocketing and fails to address the crisis of affordability. It fails to keep our promise to veterans. It provides a million-dollar jackpot to eight Senators. It fails to protect Congress' power of the purse. I encourage my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor of yielding 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), our distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman, the top Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, for yielding and for her steadfast leadership on behalf of working families and hardworking American taxpayers in the great State of Connecticut, and all across America.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this woefully inadequate

spending bill that fails to decisively address the Republican healthcare crisis and fails to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits for tens of millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, before I say anything further, let me thank our men and women in uniform, our Active-Duty troops, our hardworking Federal employees, our civil servants, our TSA agents, our Capitol Police, our staff here in the House of Representatives, and our air traffic controllers for their service, their sacrifice, and for the work that they do on behalf of the American people each and every day. It is our promise to all of them that we will continue to work hard to make sure they are treated with the dignity and respect that they deserve in a year in which the Trump administration has gone after hardworking Federal employees relentlessly, including firing more than 200,000 Federal employees prior to the start of the Trump Republican shutdown.

Republicans control the House, the Senate, and the Presidency. Donald Trump and Republicans made the decision to shut the government down, the longest shutdown in American history. They would rather do that than provide healthcare that is affordable to working-class Americans, middle-class Americans, and hardworking American taxpayers.

All across the country, I am certain that there are people in America asking the question: Where do we go from here?

House Democrats have a simple answer. We will continue to fight to lower the high cost of living. House Democrats will continue to fight to address the healthcare crisis that Republicans have created, and House Democrats will continue to fight to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits for tens of millions of Americans.

This fight is not over. We are just getting started. We will fight today. We will fight tomorrow. We will fight this week. We will fight next week. We will fight this month. We will fight next month. We will fight until we win this battle for the American people. That is our commitment as House Democrats.

There are only two ways that this fight will end. There are only two ways, Mr. Speaker, that this fight will end: Either Republicans finally decide to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits this year or the American people will throw Republicans out of their jobs next year and end the speakership of Donald J. Trump once and for all. That is how this fight ends.

Mr. Speaker, during this painful Trump Republican shutdown, what we have seen is two different philosophies in terms of how to govern for the American people. The Democratic Party philosophy is clear. We are ready, willing, and able to find bipartisan, common ground, anytime, anyplace, to enact spending agreements that actually make life better for the American people.

However, in order to do that, we need to have partners on the other side of the aisle who are actually willing to find the bipartisan path forward. What we have seen from Republicans from the very beginning of this Presidency is a my-way-or-the-highway approach. That has been the Republican philosophy. Jam your extremism down the throats of the American people. That is what we have seen from day one of this Presidency. That is the reason why the government has been shut down by Republicans and Donald Trump for the longest period of time in American history.

What have we seen from Donald Trump and Republicans during this shutdown? A consistent unwillingness to actually find common ground in order to make life better for the American people. Donald Trump, during the shutdown, found the time to play golf week after week after week. Donald Trump found the time to pardon serial fraudsters like George Santos and Rudolph Giuliani. Donald Trump found the time to meet with the Chinese Communist Party. Donald Trump found the time to destroy the east wing of the White House. Donald Trump found the time to extort \$230 million from the Department of Justice so he could line his pockets. Donald Trump found the time to bail out Argentina with \$40 billion. Donald Trump found the time to rip away SNAP benefits from 42 million Americans.

Mr. Speaker, these extremists are not like us. They are not like us. They have zero interest in fighting hard to make life better for the American people. Their philosophy: My way or the highway. Our response: Get lost.

We are going to continue to fight hard on behalf of the American people in the midst of a healthcare crisis and a cost-of-living crisis that is very real, despite what Donald Trump, the leader of the Republican Party, has to say. He claims there is no affordability crisis in the United States of America.

However, why would anyone believe anything that Donald Trump or Republicans have to say on this issue? Throughout 2024, before the election, Republicans in the House and the Senate and Donald Trump on the campaign trail spent all of their time saying that costs were going to go down on day one.

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Mr. Speaker, costs haven't gone down. Republicans haven't done a damn thing to lower the high cost of living. Costs haven't gone down in this country. Costs have gone up. Inflation is on the way up. Housing costs are out of control. Grocery costs are out of control. Electricity bills are out of control. Healthcare costs are skyrocketing and out of control.

In the midst of this affordability crisis, seeing this, Democrats said we have got to fight to make sure we extend Affordable Care Act tax credits so that tens of millions of people—work-

ing-class folks, middle-class folks, people in rural America, working-class America, small-town America, the heartland of America, Black and Brown communities all throughout America—don't experience premium increases that in some cases will go up by \$1,000 or \$2,000 per year.

In many cases, month after month after month, it will go up \$1,000 or \$2,000 per month. That is tens of thousands of dollars per year. It is unacceptable in this country, the wealthiest country in the history of the world. This is in the midst of a Republican healthcare crisis.

Republicans enacted the largest cut to Medicaid in American history. They ripped health insurance away from 14 million Americans. As a result of Republican policies, hospitals, nursing homes, and community-based health centers are closing all across America including in rural parts of this great country of ours.

Now because of the Republican refusal to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits, tens of millions of Americans are at risk of being unable to afford to see a doctor when they need one. It is happening in this country, the wealthiest country in the history of the world.

It can't be the case that healthcare is simply a privilege for the wealthy, the well-off, and the well-connected. Mr. Speaker, that is the Republican perspective.

As Democrats, we believe that healthcare has to be a right and a right that is affordable and available to every single American in the United States. That is what this fight is all about, and that is what the fight will continue to be about as we move forward.

Many of my Republican colleagues have suggested that they want to deal with the healthcare affordability issue. They want to address the Republican healthcare crisis that is devastating people all across this country. We have an opportunity for them to do so.

There is a discharge petition connected to legislation that House Democrats have introduced to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits for 3 years. We believe that working-class Americans, middle-class Americans, and everyday Americans deserve the same level of certainty that Republicans always provide to the wealthy, the well-off, and the well-connected donors. Working-class Americans deserve that level of certainty.

We ask our Republican colleagues to join us in extending the Affordable Care Act tax credits. It is not too late. We are in the midst of open enrollment. The tax credits expire on December 31. We will stay on this issue until we get this issue resolved for everyday Americans.

Mr. Speaker, as I close, I have had the opportunity, as many of us do, to serve in the United States Congress with legendary figures, too numerous to mention. Some of those legendary

Members include, of course, Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI, STENY HOYER, the great JIM CLYBURN, MAXINE WATERS, Elijah Cummings, and Charlie Rangel.

Our own MARCY KAPTUR is the longest serving woman in the history of the United States House of Representatives. We have all had the opportunity to serve with legendary Members like John Dingell. As I said, they are too numerous to mention.

Mr. Speaker, one can't call that roll without calling the name of the great John Lewis. I had the distinct honor of serving with John Lewis for several terms. Many of us here in the House of Representatives did.

I will never forget on my first day in Congress that I had the opportunity to meet John Lewis for the first time in person. He called me over to see him on the House floor. He just asked me a simple question. He said: Are you the new guy?

I said: Yes, sir, Mr. Lewis, I am.

He said: Well, we are colleagues now. You don't have to call me Mr. Lewis. You can call me John.

I said: Yes, sir, Mr. Lewis, I understand.

Then he said to me: You are from Brooklyn, right?

Mr. Speaker, I have to be honest. I was tempted to say that Brooklyn is always in the House. Instead, since my mother, Laneda Jeffries, raised me with some sense, I said: Yes, sir, I am from Brooklyn.

Then he said something to me that I have never forgotten. He said: Well, I hear some positive things about you from your predecessor, but Washington, D.C., young man, can be a rough place. I don't want you to get into any trouble unless it is good trouble.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to stop by on the House floor to make sure it is clear to the American people that the spirit of John Lewis lives amongst House Democrats. We will continue to get into good trouble to make their lives better. That is our commitment to every single American all across this country, from this day and for every day, moving forward.

It was John Lewis who said to us that ours is not the struggle of one day, one week, or one year. Ours is the struggle of a lifetime and maybe even many lifetimes. Each one of us in every generation must do our part.

Mr. Speaker, we love Mr. Lewis. We were blessed by our opportunity to serve with him. House Democrats are here to do our part. We are in this fight until we win this fight for the American people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON), the

Speaker of the House. He is my very good friend and a person I admire greatly.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Chairman COLE, who has done an extraordinary job in this process.

Mr. Speaker, we all know why we are here. House Democrats voted to shut down the government. It was 54 days ago when we had that vote. It was September 19. Since that time, Senate Democrats have voted 14 times to close the government. Republicans voted a collective 15 times to open the government for the people, and the Democrats voted that many times to close it.

Then they admitted, many of them—and we can name them here, but I am not going to take the time—they admitted they were using the American people as leverage in this political game. They knew that it would cause pain, and they did it anyway. The whole exercise was pointless. It was wrong. It was cruel.

In mere moments, I want everyone to watch the board. They will do it again. I will guess most of our Democrat colleagues will vote again to close the government, again to take food out of the mouths of families who need it, again to deny pay to Federal employees, and again to stall flights and cancel airlines and do all the rest that they have done. We are not going to let them succeed in that gambit. That is right.

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While the Democrats keep voting to shut the government down, Republicans are going to vote to open it back up. We are going to get the American Government running again and working for the people, as they deserve.

I am going to close with this. As Speaker, I have the ability to talk as long as I want, but I am not going to do that tonight. We are not going to waste any more time of the people.

I am just going to say this. I think that everybody needs to remember this one simple thing: From the very beginning of this whole ordeal, on the Republican side, we operated in good faith. We offered a clean, nonpartisan CR. We were honest and transparent with the American people from the very beginning. Every single day of the shutdown, we went out and looked right into the camera with a press conference and told the American people the simple truth. We have done for the people what has been right and just and truthful. In the end, that is what God honors always. Don't forget it.

We need to get this government open as soon as possible. The American people demand and deserve it.

Mr. Speaker, let's get this done.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, there are many flaws in the hastily written Senate Republican Continuing Resolution, before us today. The most egregious is the Continuing Resolution's failure to "continue" tax credits

for health insurance which have been on the books for 4 years, right at the same time 24 million Americans are enrolling for 2026 insurance coverage in the ACA health exchanges. For millions, the abandonment of premium assistance will result in increases of 100 percent, 200 percent, and even higher. A couple in Enfield, Connecticut, in their 60s, who visited with me last week with their premium notice, are looking at an increase from \$300/month to \$2,449/month. The only way they can pay that is to draw funds from their retirement 401k, triggering tax penalties on top of the increased out-of-pocket costs. My office heard from many other constituents with similar shocking increases, whose stories are attached to my written statement.

I also want to alert Members of the House that this new continuing resolution (CR) released this past Saturday November 8, 2025, which funds the government to January 30, 2026, has a serious gap in funding for the Columbia-class submarine program. This program, which has been referred to as the "number one acquisition priority" of both the Department of the Navy and the Department of Defense, is building new ballistic submarines on a very tight schedule to replace the aging fleet of Ohio-class submarines, who have been on patrol starting in the 1980's. The first two submarines—USS District of Columbia and USS Wisconsin—are under construction and fully funded with appropriations approved by prior Congresses. The third, USS Groton SSBN 828 is ready to start construction, subject to Congress approving the funds.

For this CR, The Navy requested an anomaly for full fiscal year 2026 Columbia program funding to Congressional leadership to keep this program on track. In past years, this has been a normal request in order to make sure production stays on schedule, regardless of late passage of the full Navy budget. Astonishingly, Mr. Speaker, the Senate continuing resolution refused the Navy's request and Columbia program has zero additional funding. This is not a minor bookkeeping concern. The absence of a set aside, or anomaly, to fund construction of SSBN 828, will create serious risk of a halt work order to the production schedule of the Nation's most critical defense program.

The legislative chaos of the last two months, with the House shut down at the Speaker's behest, has suffocated the normal communication and negotiation that would address glaring harm, such as the cut off of health insurance subsidies and steady funding of the Navy's shipbuilding budget. There is a better path, Mr. Speaker, which is to have our chamber exercise its independent constitutional role and protect both the health care and national security of our Nation. Reject this budget and fix these glaring flaws. I include in the RECORD the following written statements from my constituents:

KRISTIN MCSHANE—NORWICH

My name is Kristin McShane and I live in Norwich CT. My husband and I own a martial arts school. We buy our health insurance through the state health exchange and on average pay \$850 a month for insurance. We got a letter the other day that our rates will be increasing a lot due to ACA rates expiring. On top of high monthly premiums, we have high deductibles and many things are not covered. We also pay for all vision and dental expenses out of pocket as they are not covered and out of pocket coverage is even more than that. It's hard to have so much of

our monthly income going to medical bills and insurance. We haven't been told exactly what our increase will be but we are going to have to make cuts to other parts of our lives to afford them. It's not right or fair to give very earthly people tax breaks while increasing necessary expenses for average hard working people who are barely getting by. I can't remember the last stress free day we have had because of the increasing costs of everything but most especially healthcare.

CALEB—NORWICH

As a small business owner in Connecticut, I am writing to share my deep concern about the potential loss of the health insurance exchange and the premium tax credits.

For business owners like me, the ACA marketplace (the exchange) is often the only way to get affordable health coverage. The tax credits are not just a small help—they are essential. Without them, many of us, our families, and even our employees would not be able to afford health insurance.

Losing this system would negatively impact our business. It would mean facing impossible choices between our health and our livelihood. It makes it harder to run a stable business, stay productive, and provide for our families.

We are counting on you to protect the health insurance exchange and the tax credits that make coverage possible. Please oppose any efforts that would take away this critical support for Connecticut's small business community.

LEE—MYSTIC

She and her partner buy their insurance through the exchange and she's expecting their premium to go from \$700 to approximately \$2,500 per month. Her partner left a higher paying job last year to take a different role without insurance, and now they aren't sure if they can make it work.

ANONYMOUS—CLINTON

I won't be able to afford insurance next year without the ACA. I work for a small business that can't afford to offer benefits. At 54 I will go without coverage and hope I stay healthy.

ANONYMOUS—EAST HADDAM

I am a widow who resides with my 23-year-old son who just graduated from college in May '24. He is, and has been, seeking full time employment in the criminal justice field. I have a full-time and part-time job. My full-time employer does not provide medical insurance. Both my son and I are on a medical/dental insurance policy which I purchased through Access Health CT. Due to our household income, we qualify for tax credits. Even with these tax credits, I am currently paying close to \$700/month for our insurance. I know that I cannot afford a monthly premium upwards of \$1000!

It is a well-known fact that health insurance premiums in the United States are ridiculous! Our healthcare system is broken, now it will become unaffordable! It is a sad statement when other countries medical programs far surpass the United State of America!

JILL—NIANTIC

Current plan is no longer available. New Bronze Anthem plan (\$6k deductible) but without dental or vision. Premium is \$1,384.15 which is a 14% increase. Premium tax credits are no longer available, leading to a monthly premium of \$1,384.15 (258% increase) however, also need to add in a dental plan with premium of \$23.56 so final monthly premium for 2026 will be \$1,407.71.

Versus 2025 premium of \$386.90 means the premium increase is \$1,020.81 every month (264%) which is \$12,249.72 for the year or 13% of our annual income. Additionally, under

the new plan available, copays have been changed to co-insurance and I've lost vision insurance.

ANONYMOUS—ENFIELD

Currently paying \$295.70 per month for 2 adults. Going up to \$2,449 per month.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this Continuing Resolution. Although I support opening the government after this devastating 43-day shutdown, I will not support a bill that will continue the Republican's assault on Americans and their pocketbooks. At a time when Oregonians and Americans are already struggling with rising costs, this bill locks in devastating cuts to health care and drives up the cost of health insurance—in many cases significantly.

Just a few months ago the Republicans passed a cruel budget in which they paid for tax cuts for billionaires by making the largest cuts to Medicaid and SNAP in history. Now they are continuing their heartless obsession with destroying the Affordable Care Act.

These Republican policies are damaging to the entire health care system, but are especially harmful for rural hospitals and clinics. At home in Oregon, hospitals and health systems have described the consequences of this agenda as 'catastrophic.' Staff will be reduced, clinics will close, and we will go back to the day when people without insurance delayed care and ended up in emergency rooms.

These cuts to health care—and the Republican shutdown more broadly—are further proof that the first ten months of this Trump administration have been chaotic, harmful, and completely out of touch with the needs of the American people. Donald Trump held an extravagant Great Gatsby party at Mar-a-Lago the night before SNAP benefits expired, and the administration and Republicans continue to ignore the needs of working families. That's not governing; it's a cruel and corrupt abdication of their promise and their responsibility to bring down costs and grow the economy. Oregonians and Americans deserve better.

During the shutdown I held three town hall meetings—something most Republicans still refuse to do—and heard from many constituents who are extremely worried about the already high cost of living. The Republican health care cuts and the increased costs the Republicans are locking in with this bill will make life harder, not easier, for the people we represent. The Republicans who crafted these policies might change their minds if they actually showed up to hear from their constituents.

Donald Trump claimed he would lower costs, but this bill, along with his chaotic tariff policies, are making costs rise—not fall. People across this country are struggling to pay for housing, groceries, child care, and other necessities. Too many families have already reached their breaking point, and this will drive them further into debt and despair.

The Republican agenda would dramatically increase premiums for more than 198,000 Oregonians, including my constituent Teresa from Clatsop County. Teresa, a small business owner, runs a small flower and produce farm. Like many small business owners, she purchases her coverage on the Oregon health care exchange. Because of Republicans' refusal to protect health care, her premium will soon be going from \$230 a month to \$1,077 a month.

This is unconscionable, unacceptable, and unnecessary. Teresa is about to turn 60; she

works a tough, physical job. Running a small family farm is challenging even in a strong economy. She won't be able to afford her premium, and yet she can't afford to be without health care. One illness or one injury could threaten her health and her livelihood. Teresa could be forced to close her family business—a business that plays an important part in Oregon's north coast economy.

Teresa is not alone. Americans across the country are receiving similar letters about dramatic premium increases, forcing them to make impossible decisions; if they keep their coverage, how will they pay for food and housing and child care? They can't.

Teresa, and everyone in the United States, should feel secure, not fearful, when they get sick. They deserve better.

I am fighting to make health care accessible and affordable, and I'm asking Republicans to join House Democrats in this important work. We've had weeks to address the rising costs—to consider good-faith proposals that could prevent pushing millions off a health care cliff. But the Speaker of the House closed the United States House of Representatives for business for seven weeks. That's no way to run government.

This Continuing Resolution is a betrayal to the people we represent. Outrageously, at the last-minute Republicans included a provision in this bill that allows certain Republican Senators to sue the federal government for hundreds of thousands of dollars in connection with seizing their phone records regarding Jan. 6, 2021. This provision is a get-rich-quick scheme for Senators who attempted to overthrow democracy. It's the epitome of corruption and has no place in Congress much less in a spending bill. I supported removing the language from the bill, but Republican leadership didn't even let us vote on an amendment to do that.

I invite my colleagues to listen to their constituents, vote no, come back to the table, and join us in the work to make healthcare affordable and accessible for all.

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as we take up the Senate-passed bill to reopen the government, I want to clarify that we should be proceeding through regular order before taking any action that could potentially impact the entire hemp industry and affect more than 220,000 American jobs.

Authorizing policy through an appropriations bill is counter to House rules and undermines the jurisdiction of our authorizing committees. Appropriations bills are intended to fund the operations of government, not to rewrite permanent law.

The Agriculture Committee is the proper venue to hear from stakeholders and debate this change. This provision should never have been added to an appropriations bill on the floor of the Senate without input from the farmers and small businesses who will be potentially impacted.

What we need is a measured, transparent approach that prioritizes public safety while preserving a viable path forward for an emerging American industry. Once the government is reopened, I look forward to working with my colleagues to restore certainty and stability for farmers in North Carolina and throughout the U.S.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, while I support the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5371, which puts an end to the Democrats' reckless and unnec-

essary 43-day government shutdown, I strongly oppose Section 781 of this bill, which would deal a fatal blow to American farmers supplying the regulated hemp industry and small businesses, and jeopardize tens of billions of dollars in economic activity.

The 2018 Farm Bill expanded the definition of hemp and established a successful framework for the hemp industry. Under this framework, the hemp industry supports over 320,000 American jobs, generates \$28.4 billion in regulated market activity, and produces some \$1.5 billion in state tax revenue.

The hemp industry has stepped forward to self-regulate in the absence of uniform federal regulations—uniting behind a framework which restricts the sale and possession of hemp products to adults 21 years and older, standardizes packaging to eliminate "look-a-like" products that are appealing to children, standardizes labeling to empower adult consumers to make informed choices, and requires independent third-party laboratory tests for consumable hemp products. They have been asking Congress to pass legislation to responsibly regulate their industry.

Rather than adopt this common-sense regulatory framework to protect children and allow adults to make informed decisions, Section 781 of this bill essentially imposes a national ban of all ingestible hemp products with any "quantifiable" level of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which represents between 90 and 95 percent of hemp products in the marketplace, including the vast majority of non-intoxicating cannabidiol (CBD) products offered in the marketplace.

Section 781 of this bill would needlessly and arbitrarily change the definition of legal hemp rather than responsibly regulating the market. This would effectively turn out the lights on America's legal hemp farmers, preempt the work being done in states to create regulatory frameworks for hemp products, and restrict consumer choice for the tens of millions of Americans who use hemp-derived products.

Approximately 20 percent of American adults report using CBD or a hemp-derived product in the preceding 12 months. These products are here; they are widespread, and they are not going away. As the failed war on drugs has shown, provisions like this drive out responsible actors from the industry and embolden shady, black-market actors who care not for consumer safety or the protection of children.

Rather than have a substantive, open debate on the future of hemp policy in America, prohibitionists slipped this provision into a must-pass government funding bill, forcing Members of Congress to choose between voting their conscience on hemp and paying our military servicemembers. This is wrong.

I opposed this language when prohibitionists tried to insert it into the Agriculture-FDA Appropriations bill last fiscal year, I opposed the language when they tried to insert it into the farm bill, I continue to oppose this language. But I cannot vote to keep this government shut down and force the approximately 35,000 military servicemembers in South Carolina to work without pay.

In the year before this provision takes effect, I will work tirelessly to reverse this harmful language and create a common-sense regulatory framework which protects America's children, ensures product quality, and preserves access to products used by tens of millions of Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 873, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 209, not voting 2, as follows:

[Roll No. 285]

YEAS—222

Aderholt	Gill (TX)	Miller (OH)
Alford	Jimenez	Miller (WV)
Allen	Golden (ME)	Miller-Meeks
Amodeli (NV)	Goldman (TX)	Mills
Arrington	Gonzales, Tony	Moolenaar
Babin	Gooden	Moore (AL)
Bacon	Gosar	Moore (NC)
Baird	Graves	Moore (UT)
Balderson	Gray	Moore (WV)
Barr	Greene (GA)	Moran
Barrett	Griffith	Murphy
Baumgartner	Grothman	Nehls
Bean (FL)	Guest	Newhouse
Begich	Guthrie	Norman
Bentz	Hageman	Nunn (IA)
Bergman	Hamadeh (AZ)	Obernolte
Bice	Haridopolos	Ogles
Biggs (AZ)	Harrigan	Onder
Biggs (SC)	Harris (MD)	Owens
Bilirakis	Harris (NC)	Palmer
Boebert	Harshbarger	Patronis
Bost	Hern (OK)	Perez
Brecheen	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Bresnahan	Hill (AR)	Pfluger
Buchanan	Hinson	Reschenthaler
Burchett	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Burlison	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Calvert	Huizenga	Rose
Cammack	Hunt	Rouzer
Carey	Hurd (CO)	Roy
Carter (GA)	Issa	Rulli
Carter (TX)	Jack	Rutherford
Ciscomani	Jackson (TX)	Salazar
Cline	James	Scalise
Cloud	Johnson (LA)	Schmidt
Clyde	Johnson (SD)	Schweikert
Cole	Jordan	Scott, Austin
Collins	Joyce (OH)	Self
Comer	Joyce (PA)	Sessions
Crane	Kean	Shreve
Crank	Kelly (MS)	Simpson
Crawford	Kelly (PA)	Smith (MO)
Crenshaw	Kennedy (UT)	Smith (NE)
Cuellar	Kiggans (VA)	Smith (NJ)
Davidson	Kiley (CA)	Smucker
Davis (NC)	Kim	Spartz
De La Cruz	Knott	Stauber
DesJarlais	Kustoff	Stefanik
Diaz-Balart	LaHood	Steil
Donalds	LaLota	Strong
Downing	LaMalfa	Stutzman
Dunn (FL)	Langworthy	Suoizzi
Edwards	Latta	Taylor
Ellzey	Lawler	Tenney
Emmer	Lee (FL)	Thompson (PA)
Estes	Letlow	Tiffany
Evans (CO)	Loudermilk	Timmons
Ezell	Lucas	Turner (OH)
Fallon	Luna	Valadao
Fedorchak	Luttrell	Van Drew
Feenstra	Mace	Van Dwyne
Fine	Mackenzie	Van Orden
Finstad	Malliotakis	Wagner
Fischbach	Maloy	Walberg
Fitzgerald	Mann	Weber (TX)
Fitzpatrick	Mast	Webster (FL)
Fleischmann	McClain	Westerman
Flood	McClintock	Wied
Fong	McCormick	Williams (TX)
Fox	McDowell	Wilson (SC)
Franklin, Scott	McGuire	Wittman
Fry	Messmer	Womack
Fulcher	Meuser	Yakym
Garbarino	Miller (IL)	Zinke

NAYS—209

Adams	Gomez	Omar
Aguilar	Gonzalez, V.	Pallone
Amo	Goodlander	Panetta
Ansari	Gottheimer	Pappas
Auchincloss	Green, Al (TX)	Pelosi
Balint	Grijalva	Peters
Barragan	Harder (CA)	Pettersen
Beatty	Hayes	Pingree
Bell	Himes	Pocan
Bera	Horsford	Pou
Beyer	Houlahan	Pressley
Bishop	Hoyer	Quigley
Bonamici	Hoyle (OR)	Ramirez
Boyle (PA)	Huffman	Randall
Brown	Ivey	Raskin
Brownley	Jackson (IL)	Riley (NY)
Budzinski	Jacobs	Rivas
Bynum	Jayapal	Ross
Carbajal	Jeffries	Ruiz
Carson	Johnson (GA)	Ryan
Carter (LA)	Johnson (TX)	Salinas
Casar	Kamlager-Dove	Sanchez
Case	Kaptur	Scanlon
Casten	Keating	Schakowsky
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Schneider
Castro (TX)	Kennedy (NY)	Scholten
Cherfilus-	Khanna	Schrier
McCormick	Krishnamoorthi	Scott (VA)
Chu	Landman	Scott, David
Cisneros	Larsen (WA)	Sewell
Clark (MA)	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Clarke (NY)	Latimer	Sherrill
Cleaver	Lee (NV)	Simon
Clyburn	Lee (PA)	Smith (WA)
Cohen	Leger Fernandez	Sorensen
Conaway	Levin	Soto
Correa	Liccardo	Stansbury
Costa	Lieu	Stanton
Courtney	Lofgren	Steube
Craig	Lynch	Stevens
Crockett	Magaziner	Strickland
Crow	Mannion	Subramanyam
Daids (KS)	Massie	Swalwell
Davis (IL)	Matsui	Sykes
Dean (PA)	McBath	Takano
DeGette	McBride	Thanedar
DeLauro	McClain Delaney	Thompson (CA)
DelBene	McClellan	Thompson (MS)
Deluzio	McCollum	Titus
DeSaulnier	McDonald Rivet	Tlaib
Dexter	McGarvey	Tokuda
Dingell	McGovern	Tonko
Doggett	McIver	Torres (CA)
Elfreth	Meeks	Torres (NY)
Escobar	Menendez	Trahan
Espallat	Meng	Tran
Evans (PA)	Mfume	Underwood
Fields	Min	Vargas
Figures	Moore (WI)	Vasquez
Fletcher	Morelle	Veasey
Foster	Morrison	Velázquez
Foushee	Moskowitz	Vindman
Frankel, Lois	Moulton	Walkinshaw
Friedman	Mrvan	Wasserman
Frost	Mullin	Schultz
Garamendi	Nadler	Waters
Garcia (CA)	Neal	Whitesides
Garcia (IL)	Neguse	Williams (GA)
Garcia (TX)	Norcross	Wilson (FL)
Gillen	Ocasio-Cortez	
Goldman (NY)	Olzewski	

NOT VOTING—2

McCauley Watson Coleman

□ 2021

Ms. SCHOLTEN changed her vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES AND SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Armed Services and Select Committee on Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 12, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON

*Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I respectfully request to be relieved from assignments to the House Armed Services Committee and the House Select Committee on Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, effective immediately.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on these committees on behalf of my constituents and the American people.

Sincerely,

MIKIE SHERRILL,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE RICHARD B. CHENEY

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution as follows:

H. RES. 874

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Richard B. Cheney, a former Vice President of the United States of America.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, and pursuant to House Resolution 874, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 9 a.m., as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Richard B. Cheney.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 9 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 119th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

Adelita S. Grijalva, Seventh District of Arizona.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE A COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 12, 2025.

To the Clerk of the House of Representatives:
Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XV, I, Thomas Massie, move to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 581 entitled, a resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 185) to advance responsible policies, which was referred to said committee July 15, 2025, in support of which motion the undersigned Members of the House of Representatives affix their signatures, to wit:

1. Thomas Massie.	23. Greg Landsman.	43. Sheila Cherfillus-McCormick.
2. James P. McGovern.	24. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott.	44. Jonathon L. Jackson.
3. Mary Gay Scanlon.	25. Becca Balint.	45. Judy Chu.
4. Joe Courtney.	26. George Whitesides.	46. Melanie A. Stansbury.
5. Bill Foster.	27. Nancy Pelosi.	47. LaMonica McIVER.
6. Morgan McGarvey.	28. Jimmy Panetta.	48. Jason Crow.
7. Johnny Olszewski.	29. Josh Gottheimer.	49. Shontel M. Brown.
8. Dwight Evans.	30. Paul Tonko.	50. Jared F. Golden.
9. Bonnie Watson Coleman.	31. John W. Mannion.	51. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson.
10. Sean Casten.	32. Debbie Dingell.	52. Jill N. Tokuda.
11. Kristen McDonald.	33. Yassamin Ansari.	53. Adriano Espallat.
12. Janelle S. Bynum.	34. Gregory W. Meeks.	54. Ro Khanna.
13. Mike Quigley.	35. Stephen F. Lynch.	55. Andrea Salinas.
14. Laura Friedman.	36. Thomas R. Suozzi.	56. Lauren Boebert.
15. Chrissy Houlahan.	37. Dave Min.	57. Sarah Elfreth.
16. Deborah K. Ross.	38. Julie Johnson.	58. Frederica S. Wilson.
17. Maxine Dexter.	39. Mark Takano.	59. Patrick Ryan.
18. Cleo Fields.	40. Emily Randall.	60. Marilyn Strickland.
19. Troy A. Carter.	41. Shomari Figures.	61. Marjorie Taylor Greene.
20. Bennie G. Thompson.	42. Nikema Williams.	62. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.
21. Nancy Mace.		
22. Gabe Vasquez.		

63. Lois Frankel.	116. Sara Jacobs.	168. Robin L. Kelly.
64. Kelly Morrison.	117. Robert Menendez.	169. Richard E. Neal.
65. Kathy Castor.	118. Nanette Diaz Barragan.	170. Frank Pallone.
66. Gilbert Ray Cisneros.	119. Jennifer L. McClellan.	171. Glenn Ivey.
67. J. Luis Correa.	120. Jahana Hayes.	172. Josh Harder.
68. Jesus G. "Chuy" Garica.	121. Joe Neguse.	173. Jerrold Nadler.
69. Subas Subramanyam.	122. Emanuel Cleaver.	174. Sam T. Liccardo.
70. Norma J. Torres.	123. George Latimer.	175. Jared Huffman.
71. Bradley Scott Schneider.	124. Ilhan Omar.	176. Timothy M. Kennedy.
72. Lori Trahan.	125. André Carson.	177. Mark Pocan.
73. Chris Pappas.	126. Jasmine Crockett.	178. Hillary J. Scholten.
74. Alma S. Adams.	127. Al Green.	179. Darren Soto.
75. Suzan K. DelBene.	128. Maxine Waters.	180. Susie Lee.
76. Nikki Budzinski.	129. Donald G. Davis.	181. Yvette D. Clarke.
77. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez.	130. Lauren Underwood.	182. Joaquin Castro.
78. Lucy McBeth.	131. Steve Cohen.	183. Mark DeSaulnier.
79. Veronica Escobar.	132. Terri A. Sewell.	184. Joseph D. Morelle.
80. Lizzie Fletcher.	133. Robert Garcia.	185. Jake Auchincloss.
81. Greg Stanton.	134. Shri Thanedar.	186. Sharice Davids.
82. Rashida Tlaib.	135. Diana DeGette.	187. Steny H. Hoyer.
83. Luz M. Rivas.	136. Teresa Leger Fernandez.	188. Kevin Mullin.
84. Doris O. Matsui.	137. Steven Horsford.	189. Rosa L. DeLauro.
85. Haley M. Stevens.	138. Brad Sherman.	190. Rick Larsen.
86. Seth Magaziner.	139. Marc A. Veasey.	191. Juan Vargas.
87. Dina Titus.	140. Katherine M. Clark.	192. Donald S. Beyer.
88. Zoe Lofgren.	141. Hakeem S. Jeffries.	193. James E. Clyburn.
89. Marcy Kaptur.	142. Sanford D. Bishop.	194. Debbie Wasserman Schultz.
90. Laura Gillen.	143. John Garamendi.	195. William R. Keating.
91. Nellie Pou.	144. Derek Tran.	196. Madeleine Dean.
92. Salud O. Carbajal.	145. Brittany Petterson.	197. Chellie Pingree.
93. Raja Krishnamoorthi.	146. Brendan F. Boyle.	198. Josh Riley.
94. Maggie Goodlander.	147. Suzanne Bonamici.	199. Scott H. Peters.
95. Wesley Bell.	148. Eric Sorensen.	200. Gwen Moore.
96. Kim Schrier.	149. Ted Lieu.	201. Seth Moulton.
97. Gabe Amo.	150. David Scott.	202. April McClain.
98. Janice D. Schakowsky.	151. Ami Bera.	203. Angie Craig.
99. Frank J. Mrvan.	152. Joyce Beatty.	204. Mike Thompson.
100. Ayanna Pressley.	153. Julia Brownley.	205. Linda T. Sánchez.
101. Grace Meng.	154. Sylvia R. Garcia.	206. Jim Costa.
102. Sarah McBride.	155. Donald Norcross.	207. Jimmy Gomez.
103. Jared Moskowitz.	156. Valerie P. Foushee.	208. Pete Aguilar.
104. Maxwell Forst.	157. Christopher R. Deluzio.	209. Ed Case.
105. Delia C. Ramirez.	158. Lateefah Simon.	210. Vicente Gonzalez.
106. Summer L. Lee.	159. Raul Ruiz.	211. Lloyd Doggett.
107. Jamie Raskin.	160. Ritchie Torres.	212. Mikie Sherrill.
108. Herbert C. Conaway.	161. Nydia M. Velázquez.	213. James A. Himes.
109. Pramila Jayapal.	162. Sydney Kamlager-Dove.	214. Henry Cuellar.
110. Adam Gray.	163. Adam Smith.	215. Daniel S. Goldman.
111. Kweisi Mfume.	164. Danny K. Davis.	216. Eric Swalwell.
112. John B. Larson.	165. Betty McCollum.	217. James R. Walkinshaw.
113. Greg Casar.	166. Val T. Hoyle.	218. Adelita S. Grijalva.
114. Eugene Simon.	167. Mike Levin.	
115. Emilia Strong Sykes.		

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

2194. Under clause 2 of rule XIV, a letter from the Deputy General Counsel,

Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's Major final regulations — William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program [Docket ID: ED-2025-OPE-0016] (RIN: 1840-AA28) received November 10, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868), was taken from the Speaker's table, referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. FISHBACH: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 873. A resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5371) making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-372). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H. Res. 1736. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on terrorism threats to the United States posed by terrorist organizations utilizing generative artificial intelligence applications, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 119-373). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 2212. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-374). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 2261. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the Department of Homeland Security's oversight of certain intelligence matters, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-375). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5062. A bill to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to codify the Transportation Security Administration's responsibility relating to securing pipeline transportation and pipeline facilities against cybersecurity threats, acts of terrorism, and other nefarious acts that jeopardize the physical security or cybersecurity of pipelines, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-376). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 5078. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the State and local cybersecurity grant program of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-377). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GARBARINO: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 2259. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the development of a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against acts of terrorism, and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-378). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 979. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-379 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Homeland Security and Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 979 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. ROSE, Mrs. HOUGHIN, Ms. FOXX, Mr. ROY, Ms. BOEBERT, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CRANK, Mr. SCHMIDT, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. EVANS of Colorado):

H.R. 6019. A bill to repeal certain provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 6020. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14855 South Van Dyke Road in Plainfield, Illinois, as the "Staff Sergeant Jose Dueñez Jr. Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BEGICH:

H.R. 6021. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to clarify the treatment of authentic Alaska Native articles of handicraft containing nonedible migratory bird parts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BRESNAHAN (for himself and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 6022. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a flag for next of kin of veterans who die by suicide; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURLISON:

H.R. 6023. A bill to provide the President the authority to sell Federal real property during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CROW (for himself and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 6024. A bill to improve mental health services of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. BYNUM):

H.R. 6025. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to authorize State-licensed ap-

praisers to conduct appraisals in connection with mortgages insured by the FHA and to ensure compliance with the existing appraiser education and competency requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 6026. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Education to submit a report on the availability, accessibility, and affordability of childcare for veteran families; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 6027. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an annual increase in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 6028. A bill to modify the appointment and removal process for certain legislative branch officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GUEST:

H.R. 6029. A bill to amend the Bank Secrecy Act to exempt transactions with respect to cash reward payments by crime stopper organizations from certain currency transaction reports; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HERNÁNDEZ (for himself, Mr. BEYER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 6030. A bill to include Puerto Rico in National Survey on Drug Use and Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HERNÁNDEZ (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 6031. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a floor in Medicare Advantage benchmark rates for regions with low Medicare fee-for-service penetration; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 6032. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish headstones, markers, and medallions for graves of certain enslaved individuals and individuals who performed military functions despite ineligibility to serve in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6033. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to each report on certain disparities that affect the receipt of certain benefits administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6034. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide additional entitle-

ment to Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to certain veterans and members of the Armed Forces who require extra time to complete remedial and deficiency courses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HUNT (for himself, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. ROY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROSE, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Mr. COLLINS):

H.R. 6035. A bill to repeal the firearm-related provisions of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CROW, and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 6036. A bill to ensure that certain members of the Armed Forces who served in female cultural support teams receive proper credit for such service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 6037. A bill to reauthorize the West Valley demonstration project; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MACKENZIE (for himself, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 6038. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an integrated project team to improve the process for scheduling appointments for health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 6039. A bill to advance commonsense priorities; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, Appropriations, Ethics, Education and Workforce, the Judiciary, Veterans' Affairs, Natural Resources, House Administration, Science, Space, and Technology, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Government Reform, Agriculture, Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Homeland Security, Rules, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROSE:

H.R. 6040. A bill to repeal provisions relating to notification to Senate offices regarding legal process on disclosure of Senate data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. SALINAS (for herself and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 6041. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide rural partnership program grants and rural partnership technical assistance grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 6042. A bill to create mechanisms by which State law enforcement can coordinate with the Federal Government to detect and stop drones involved in unlawful activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on

the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Homeland Security, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 6043. A bill to prohibit covered entities from preventing the use of certain data by individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H. Res. 874. A resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Richard B. Cheney; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H. Res. 875. A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of The Arc of the United States, a leading organization promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supporting their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 6019.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 6020.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BEGICH:

H.R. 6021.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following provisions of the Constitution of the United States:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (the Commerce Clause)—To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 (the Treaty Clause)—To make treaties, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and to enact legislation implementing the obligations of the United States under those treaties, including the migratory bird conventions between the United States and other nations.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (the Necessary and Proper Clause)—To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers.

By Mr. BRESNAHAN:

H.R. 6022.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. BURLISON:

H.R. 6023.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VII of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 6024.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 6025.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 6026.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 6027.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 6028.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution as well as Amendment XVI

By Mr. GUEST:

H.R. 6029.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HERNÁNDEZ:

H.R. 6030.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HERNÁNDEZ:

H.R. 6031.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6032.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6033.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. HORSFORD:

H.R. 6034.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. HUNT:

H.R. 6035.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, amend. II

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 6036.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 6037.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. MACKENZIE:

H.R. 6038.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 6039.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ROSE:

H.R. 6040.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. SALINAS:

H.R. 6041.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 6042.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 6043.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 425: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 465: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 477: Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 486: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 539: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 563: Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 637: Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 657: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 669: Ms. ANSARI.

H.R. 701: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 810: Mr. FULCHER.

H.R. 842: Mr. WIED and Mr. MAST.

H.R. 909: Mr. MACKENZIE.

H.R. 1061: Ms. STANSBURY and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 1083: Mr. HARRIGAN.

H.R. 1197: Mr. WALKINSHAW and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1269: Mr. CRANK and Mr. MACKENZIE.

H.R. 1383: Mr. MACKENZIE.

H.R. 1397: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1410: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. ANSARI, and Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 1435: Mrs. KIM.

H.R. 1464: Mr. MACKENZIE.

H.R. 1506: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 1510: Mr. WALKINSHAW.

H.R. 1521: Mr. MACKENZIE.

H.R. 1564: Ms. MORRISON.

H.R. 1581: Mr. GRIFFITH.

H.R. 1661: Mr. HERNÁNDEZ and Mr. CASAR.

H.R. 1745: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 1799: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 1957: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 1965: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 1970: Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY.

H.R. 1973: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 1993: Ms. TITUS, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 2004: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 2005: Mr. MESSMER.

H.R. 2028: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 2054: Mr. FINE.

H.R. 2055: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2089: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2095: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 2111: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 2122: Mr. RILEY of New York and Mr. BRESNAHAN.

H.R. 2172: Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H.R. 2192: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 2232: Mr. SHREVE.

H.R. 2245: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 2253: Mr. JACK, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MACKENZIE, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 2343: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 2362: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 2385: Ms. PETERSEN.
H.R. 2675: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 2678: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 2680: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 2741: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 2767: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 2790: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 2812: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2820: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TRAN, and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2849: Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 2853: Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 2862: Ms. CHU and Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 2864: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 2882: Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 3028: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3045: Mrs. SYKES.
H.R. 3087: Mr. BISHOP.
H.R. 3112: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 3178: Mr. KILEY of California, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 3195: Mr. FIGURES.
H.R. 3304: Mr. MACKENZIE and Mr. MIN.
H.R. 3368: Mr. NORCROSS and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 3373: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 3415: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 3449: Ms. RIVAS, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 3491: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 3505: Ms. MORRISON.
H.R. 3532: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 3591: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 3597: Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 3624: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 3694: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 3699: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. MCGUIRE.
H.R. 3740: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 3743: Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, and Ms. PETERSEN.
H.R. 3843: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.
H.R. 3941: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 3946: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 3978: Mr. SHREVE.
H.R. 4099: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. MAGAZINER, and Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 4163: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 4206: Ms. PEREZ and Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 4235: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 4253: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 4283: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 4299: Mr. KENNEDY of Utah.
H.R. 4317: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MESSMER, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 4348: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4387: Mrs. McIVER.
H.R. 4482: Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H.R. 4516: Mr. BEYER and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4642: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. LANDSMAN, and Mr. EDWARDS.
H.R. 4664: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 4682: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4708: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 4731: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. HIMES, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 4895: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
H.R. 4937: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4959: Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 4976: Ms. BYNUM.
H.R. 4982: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 4989: Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 4995: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5031: Mr. MANNION and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 5057: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 5073: Ms. DEXTER.
H.R. 5091: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5106: Mr. COLLINS.
H.R. 5221: Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. PEREZ, and Mr. FEENSTRA.

H.R. 5222: Mr. LATIMER and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 5269: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5271: Ms. CROCKETT and Mr. MAC-KENZIE.
H.R. 5309: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 5325: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 5391: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 5392: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 5393: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 5401: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 5428: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 5437: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. ISSA, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. JACK.
H.R. 5444: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 5483: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 5485: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 5486: Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 5505: Mr. MESSMER.
H.R. 5515: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 5527: Mr. CISNEROS.
H.R. 5529: Mr. YAKYM and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 5541: Mr. Walkinshaw.
H.R. 5549: Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 5557: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 5563: Mr. MOORE of Alabama and Mr. FITZGERALD.
H.R. 5593: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS and Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 5614: Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H.R. 5636: Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 5655: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 5657: Mr. POCAN, Ms. FRIEDMAN, and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 5689: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 5710: Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 5716: Mr. WIED.
H.R. 5732: Ms. FRIEDMAN and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 5738: Mr. Patronis.
H.R. 5740: Ms. FRIEDMAN.
H.R. 5750: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 5753: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 5756: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 5764: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5774: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5778: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5783: Mr. DELUZIO and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 5784: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5790: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5793: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 5800: Mr. FINSTAD and Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 5815: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 5816: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 5817: Mr. HARRIGAN.
H.R. 5818: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 5838: Mr. MOOLENAAR and Ms. BOEBERT.
H.R. 5843: Ms. FRIEDMAN.
H.R. 5849: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 5861: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5867: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5870: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5874: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. MANN, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. LATTI, and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 5885: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 5890: Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 5894: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 5897: Mr. BRESNAHAN.
H.R. 5906: Ms. FRIEDMAN and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 5940: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 5942: Ms. FEDORCHAK and Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 5945: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 5946: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 5947: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 5950: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 5964: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 5967: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5969: Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 5972: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 5973: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 5983: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 5995: Ms. SEWELL and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 5996: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 5998: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 6011: Ms. CHU and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. CAREY.
H.J. Res. 126: Ms. CHU.
H.J. Res. 128: Mr. ALLEN.
H. Con. Res. 12: Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. MANNION, and Mr. MACKENZIE.
H. Con. Res. 32: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H. Con. Res. 58: Mr. SELF.
H. Res. 297: Ms. CHU and Mr. LATIMER.
H. Res. 675: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.
H. Res. 742: Mr. WALKINSHAW.
H. Res. 839: Mr. PANETTA.
H. Res. 855: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H. Res. 860: Mrs. BICE and Ms. BOEBERT.
H. Res. 866: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. CLINE, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. GUEST.
H. Res. 869: Mr. RULLI.
H. Res. 872: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.J. Res. 130, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.J. Res. 131, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 1834

OFFERED BY: MR. MCGOVERN

AMENDMENT No. 1: Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF ENHANCED PREMIUM TAX CREDIT.

(a) EXTENSION OF RULES TO INCREASE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE AMOUNTS.—Clause (iii) of section 36B(b)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “THROUGH 2025” and inserting “THROUGH 2028”, and

(2) in the matter preceding subclause (I), by striking “before January 1, 2026” and inserting “before January 1, 2029”.

(b) EXTENSION OF RULE TO ALLOW CREDIT TO TAXPAYERS WHOSE HOUSEHOLD INCOME EXCEEDS 400 PERCENT OF POVERTY LINE.—Subparagraph (E) of section 36B(c)(1) of such Code is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking “THROUGH 2025” and inserting “THROUGH 2028”, and

(2) by striking “before January 1, 2026” and inserting “before January 1, 2029”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PAUL JONES

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Paul Jones, a World War II Veteran in Corbin, Kentucky, who recently celebrated his 103rd birthday.

Paul Jones earned the distinguished role as a U.S. Navy Pilot, after being trained by one of his Major League Baseball idols. Ted Williams became Jones' naval pilot trainer when his career as a legendary left fielder for the Boston Red Sox was placed on hold for military service. Growing up in Corbin, Kentucky, Jones played baseball for his local Appalachian coal camp team. He quickly became a fan of Williams who earned a .344 batting average with 521 home runs over his 19-year baseball career. It was their common love of baseball and courage of conviction to serve their country that led them to the same path at the Naval Pilot Training field in Pensacola, Florida. When Williams found out Jones was from Eastern Kentucky, he nicknamed him "Briar," and gave him the opportunity to play catch with him and other members of the Pensacola Naval Base baseball team.

It was Williams' expert pilot training that prepared Jones to fly F6F Hellcat fighter planes, taking off from the carrier deck of the USS *Guadalcanal*. Jones was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1945 without having to face combat, and returned home to play on Corbin's L&N Railroad baseball team, the "Railroaders." In 1946, he was named to the Kentucky All-State Team at second base.

In addition to his passion for baseball and the U.S. Navy, he fell in love with Shirley Wallen Jones, a local healthcare professional in Corbin with whom he shared 55 years of marriage. Jones managed his family-owned furniture store, joined local civic activities, and joined the Navy Reserves. His zeal for flying led him to purchase a small Cessna 182 that he used to help transfer decommissioned Navy planes. Jones then committed to flying jets for the Navy Reserve from 1955 to 1959 and continued his military service for more than 20 years.

At the age of 82, he finally stopped flying his plane, but at the age of 103, he's still driving his car, walking on the treadmill, going to watch Cincinnati Reds ballgames with friends, and enjoying local sporting events and local restaurants.

Out of the 16.4 million Americans who served this great Nation during World War II, only about 45,000 of our heroes are left in 2025. We owe a great debt of gratitude for Paul Jones' remarkable life of service as a business operator in Corbin, a civic leader and a pilot for the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserves. His legacy demonstrates the utmost patriotism, while living the American dream to the fullest. May Paul's life be richly blessed as he celebrates 103 years well-lived.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. JAMES E. ALDREDGE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. James E. Aldredge, a trailblazer, educator, and public servant whose lifelong commitment to improving the City of Fresno—particularly for residents in Southwest Fresno—has left an enduring mark on our community. Dr. Aldredge passed away peacefully on October 12, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones.

Born in Gilmer, Texas, and raised in Fresno from the age of four, Dr. Aldredge's story is one of perseverance, excellence, and service. A star athlete at Edison High School, he signed with the Pittsburgh Pirates at just seventeen years old, showcasing the talent and determination that would define his life. After a career-ending injury ended his professional baseball aspirations, Dr. Aldredge redirected his focus to education, an area he would champion for decades to come.

Dr. Aldredge earned degrees from Fresno City College and California State University, Fresno, before completing both a master's and Ph.D. in Organizational Development at the University of Southern California, with additional studies at Oxford University. His academic journey reflected his deep belief that education is the key opportunity, a principle he shared throughout his life with students and colleagues alike.

In 1985, Dr. Aldredge made history when he became Fresno's first Black City Manager, breaking barriers and paving the way for future generations of leaders. His steady leadership, integrity, and commitment to equity guided the city through times of transition and progress. After retiring from City Hall in 1989, he continued to serve the community as an educator at Fresno State, City College, the University of San Francisco, and Fresno Pacific University, mentoring countless students who would go on to serve their own communities with the same sense of purpose.

Beyond public service, Dr. Aldredge dedicated his time to numerous organizations, including the boards of Saint Agnes Hospital, Kings View Behavioral Health, and CEN-CAL Business Finance Group. He also established a foundation that grew over one million dollars in assets to support students, athletes, and social services. Among his many honors, he received the B'nai B'rith Award for his lifelong commitment to justice and equality and was inducted into the State Center Community College District's Wall of Honor at the African American Historical and Cultural Museum.

Dr. Aldredge was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Daisy Rae, and his brother, John Aldredge. He is remembered by his family, friends, colleagues, and former students for his humor, wisdom, and unwavering belief in Fresno's potential. His legacy continues

through the James E. Aldredge Foundation, which embodies his vision of empowering others through education and civic engagement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing and celebrating the extraordinary life of Dr. James E. Aldredge. His story reminds us that true leadership is rooted in service, resilience, and commitment to uplifting the communities we call home.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

HON. BARRY MOORE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the remarkable accomplishments of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. His All-Holiness is not only a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal, but he is also soon to be the recipient of the Templeton Award, the world's foremost award in Religion and Science.

His All-Holiness is the spiritual leader and Primus inter Pares of Orthodox Christianity, providing leadership to a Church of 300 million people. He has throughout his ministry been a foremost advocate of religious freedom and has regularly traveled to countries hostile to Christians in order to advocate for peace.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is a leading figure in the dialogues of the Abrahamic Faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and his presence in Washington, D.C. is an extraordinary opportunity to highlight the positive role that religious leaders of his stature bring to the cause of religious liberty.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, especially the Orthodox community of my district, I want to thank His All-Holiness for his continued efforts towards peace for Christians everywhere.

RECOGNIZING DAN MOLNAR AS THE CHAMPION OF THE WEEK FOR OHIO'S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dan Molnar as the Champion of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

This year during the Akron Marathon, Dan, a local nurse practitioner, was cheering his fiancée on when a runner collapsed due to experiencing cardiac arrest. Dan hurdled a barricade, and joined other medical personnel to help.

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

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

He immediately began CPR on the runner for roughly five minutes. His quick response helped the runner regain a pulse, ultimately saving his life.

During the emotional ordeal, Dan missed seeing his fiancée cross the finish line, but he told a local news outlet that if he had to do it all over again, he would still jump in to help.

For his heroic actions, I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Dan and members of the Akron Fire Department for answering the call to help a neighbor in need. Dan is a shining example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions."

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, with tremendous pride, I rise today to honor the founding of the United States Marine Corps nearly 250 years ago.

On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia passed a resolution stating that two Battalions of Marines be raised for service as landing forces with the fleet.

This resolution established the Continental Marines and marked the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

For 250 years, the United States Marine Corps has embodied the American spirit, fighting to preserve our collective future with every victory. The year-long commemoration of this milestone anniversary celebrates a legacy of honor, courage, and commitment to our country.

As history records, the Marine Corps stands ever ready to continue in the proud tradition of those who so valiantly fought and died at Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, and Khe Sanh.

In the spirit of Semper Fidelis, the Marines have demonstrated steadfast loyalty and continually worked to help our Nation become that more perfect Union. Once again, our brave men and women in uniform remind us of what unites us all.

On behalf of everyone in the 13th Congressional District, I salute the United States Marine Corps on its 250th anniversary and express gratitude for unparalleled service and sacrifice, security and protection.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF CARMICHAEL RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carmichael Recreation and Park District on their 80th Anniversary. Through their mission, they have provided valuable community resources that have enriched the lives of its residents.

Starting in 1945, Carmichael Park and Recreation District acquired its first land parcel that went on to become their flagship park, Carmichael Park. After further land acquisitions between 1971 and 1990, the district now includes 12 additional park sites.

Parks in the district are major community hubs that include playgrounds, dog parks, ball fields, tennis and pickleball courts, as well as community gathering spaces. With their wide variety of outdoor spaces, the parks attract thousands of visitors every year.

Over their 80 years of service, the Carmichael Recreation and Park District has successfully maintained its parks and facilities through many challenges. They continue to provide exceptional recreation experiences and will continue to do so for many years to come.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing this day as the Carmichael Recreation and Park District's 80th Anniversary and thank them for their dedication to their community and its residents.

HONORING THE MILESTONE OF THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE ON ITS 50TH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th Anniversary of California Women for Agriculture.

Founded in 1975 in the Coachella Valley, this remarkable organization has become a powerful voice for women in agriculture throughout California. What began as a small group of farmers, ranchers, and consumers united by a shared commitment to agriculture has grown into a statewide movement dedicated to education, advocacy, and community engagement.

For five decades, California Women for Agriculture has built a proud legacy of supporting both the industry and the people who sustain it. Programs such as Ag Venture, which introduces community leaders to the crops and challenges of farming, and Adopt-a-Legislator, which fosters relationships between members and policymakers, have ensured that agriculture remains a vital part of California's future.

Local chapters serve as hubs of activity and outreach, hosting student career tours, scholarship programs, community dinners, and fundraising events that celebrate our agricultural heritage while building strong connections. Their efforts inspire the next generation to pursue careers in agriculture and empower women to serve as leaders in this essential industry.

As we mark this milestone, we pay tribute to the vision and determination of the women who founded this organization and to all those who have carried their mission forward with dedication and heart.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating California Women for Agriculture on 50 years of unwavering service to agriculture and to communities across our state.

RECOGNIZING SETH GOLD

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Seth Gold for his service to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio and graduate of The George Washington University for both a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and Master of Public Health—Seth began his career on Capitol Hill as a Health Legislative Assistant for Dr. Michael Burgess (TX-26) in 2016 before moving to the Senate to work as Health Policy Advisor for Senator Rob Portman (OH) in 2017. In May 2021, Seth joined the Subcommittee on Health for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce when I served as Subcommittee Republican Leader, and later Subcommittee Chair, under Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers. During his time under Chair Rodgers and myself, Seth was an invaluable Professional Staff Member and under his leadership—our committee strengthened Medicaid through the Working Families Tax Cuts, which established Medicaid work requirements and expanded home and community-based services to new beneficiaries.

After serving two Chairs and three Subcommittee Chairmen, Seth will soon depart Capitol Hill and move to Louisiana to serve as the Policy Director for the Louisiana Department of Health. I wish him the best, congratulate him on his new role, and thank Seth Gold for his service to the House Committee on Energy and United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENT ÁLVARO URIBE VÉLEZ

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the former President of the Republic of Colombia, Álvaro Uribe Vélez, for his extraordinary leadership, steadfast defense of democracy, and unwavering commitment to the safety and prosperity of the Colombian people.

President Uribe assumed office in 2002 during one of the most challenging periods in Colombia's modern history, a time marked by violence, narco-terrorism, and instability. Through his bold and visionary "Democratic Security" policy, President Uribe restored law and order, dismantled the strongholds of terrorist organizations like the FARC, and reestablished the authority of the Colombian state across the nation.

Under his leadership, Colombia's economy flourished through increased trade and investment. His administration strengthened U.S.-Colombian relations, culminating in the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement, which expanded cooperation on security and counter-narcotics efforts.

President Uribe's courage in confronting narco-terrorist groups and his dedication to the rule of law set a model for democratic governance. For his leadership, integrity, and tireless defense of liberty, many regard President

Uribe as the Abraham Lincoln of Colombia, a unifying figure who preserved his nation's democracy and restored hope to millions.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing President Álvaro Uribe Vélez for his historic contributions to the people of Colombia and to the cause of freedom and democracy.

**HONORING DENICE GERSTENBERG
FOR HER DISTINGUISHED CAREER
IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Denice Gerstenberg on the occasion of her retirement after more than three decades of exceptional service in municipal government. Throughout her distinguished career, Denice Gerstenberg has embodied the values of professionalism, compassion, and community commitment that define true public service.

Before joining the City of Algonac, Denice Gerstenberg devoted over twenty-six years to the City of Sterling Heights, Michigan, where she developed a deep understanding of city operations, policy development, and community engagement. Her dedication, integrity, and strong work ethic earned her the respect of colleagues, elected officials, and residents alike.

In 2017, Denice Gerstenberg accepted the position of City Manager for the City of Algonac. Bringing with her a wealth of experience and steady leadership, she guided the city through a period of continued growth and renewal.

Under her leadership, Algonac has continued to thrive as a welcoming waterfront community, a place where residents, visitors, and businesses alike can live, work, and play. Her prudent management of city finances, steadfast support for public works, and calm guidance during times of transition, both infrastructural and public health related, have left a lasting mark on the city's stability and success.

A proud graduate of the University of Michigan, Denice Gerstenberg earned both her Bachelor's Degree in Arts & Sciences and her Master's Degree in Public Health. She also holds a certification as a Professional Emergency Manager. Her academic achievement, coupled with her extensive professional experience, made her uniquely effective in connecting policy, people, and public well-being.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Denice Gerstenberg will be remembered for her integrity, compassion, and mentorship. She cultivated collaboration within City Hall, encouraged professional growth among city staff, and strengthened partnerships with community organizations and residents. Her belief in teamwork and civic engagement has left an enduring legacy in Algonac and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Denice Gerstenberg for her remarkable career and in wishing her every happiness in retirement. Her leadership, integrity, and service to the people of Michigan exemplify the best of local government and public service.

**HONORING MRS. YAKITTA
LANDRUM-LOVETT**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding healthcare professional, Mrs. Yakitta Landrum-Lovett, for her dedication, compassion, and exemplary service to her patients, colleagues, and community.

Mrs. Lovett has been employed at The Medical Center for 23 years, where she continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in patient care and leadership. Her professionalism, integrity, and service-minded spirit have earned her the respect and admiration of her peers.

She has been married for 22 years to Mr. Larry R. Lovett, Jr., and together they have two children, Lailah and Keelan. Beyond her professional achievements, Mrs. Lovett is deeply rooted in her faith and community. She is an active member of New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves on the Health Ministry and as a Youth Advisor.

Mrs. Lovett's passion for nursing extends beyond the workplace. She is a member of the Eliza Pillars Registered Nurses Association for District 2, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and serves on the board of My Preemie & Me, Inc.—a testament to her commitment to advancing the field of nursing and supporting families in need.

Her colleague, Chrissy Nicholson, Chief Human Resources Officer, shared, "Yakitta displays true leadership in her role with the added bonus of a caring, dedicated, and compassionate nurse. I am grateful that she is on our team."

In her own words, Mrs. Lovett said, "I enjoy helping my community become healthier one step at a time. I like working here because of the close-knit family atmosphere and how we show up for each other in times of need and adversity."

Outside of her professional and community endeavors, Mrs. Lovett enjoys shopping, traveling, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Yakitta Landrum-Lovett for her outstanding service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to her profession and community.

**HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE MADDY INSTITUTE**

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 25th anniversary of the Maddy Institute, headquartered at California State University, Fresno, for its extraordinary contributions to civic education, leadership development, and public policy engagement in the San Joaquin Valley, California, and our Nation.

The Maddy Institute was founded in 1999 through California Senate Bill 733, making it

the first and only public policy institute formally established by the California Legislature. Since its inception, the institute has embodied the vision and values of its namesake, the late Senator Kenneth L. Maddy, a distinguished public servant whose nearly three decades in the California Legislature were marked by integrity, bipartisanship, and a deep commitment to the people of the Central Valley.

Guided by this purpose, the Maddy Institute has pursued a clear and enduring mission: to provide a nonpartisan venue for thoughtful dialogue on pressing public policy issues; to strengthen civic participation; to prepare the next generation of leaders; and to enhance the engagement, efficiency, and effectiveness of government at all levels.

Over the past quarter century, The Maddy Institute has become a cornerstone of civic life in the San Joaquin Valley. Through its flagship programs, The Maddy Report, Valley Views radio program, and The Maddy Daily news aggregator, the institute has informed and engaged thousands of residents, ensuring that critical policy issues are accessible to the communities they affect.

The institute's impact extends far beyond information sharing. Its leadership and internship initiatives, including the "Maddy Interns and Costa Scholars" programs respectively, have opened doors for countless students to serve in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., equipping them with the knowledge and experience to become the next generation of civic, business, and nonprofit leaders. Its forums and summits, including the recently launched Ag Policy Summit, bring together leaders from across sectors to address some of the most complex challenges facing California's heartland.

From producing groundbreaking documentaries on air quality to championing civic engagement through the Citizenship Academy, The Maddy Institute has consistently elevated public discourse and advanced practical solutions for regional statewide challenges. Its alumni now hold leadership roles in business, education, government, law, and public service, carrying forward Senator Maddy's enduring legacy.

In 2024, the Institute marked another milestone with the appointment of Blake Zante, a proud Maddy alumnus, as its Executive Director, building upon the leadership of Mark Keppler, who guided the Institute for two transformative decades. Today, The Maddy Institute continues to thrive as a collaborative partnership among four universities: California State University Fresno, California State University Bakersfield, California State University Stanislaus, and the University of California Merced, an unprecedented model for regional innovation and civic leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating The Maddy Institute for its 25 years of service, its ongoing commitment to civic leadership and public service, and its enduring impact on the future of our Valley and the State of California.

HONORING THE SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL WARRIOR GRILLERS

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Santa Rosa High School Warrior Grillers for winning the Third Annual La Feria Independent School District (ISD) BBQ Cook-Off, earning the title of Grand Champion in their very first competition. This remarkable achievement reflects the Valley's deep-rooted tradition of community, culture, and culinary excellence.

What began just three years ago as a small local contest has grown into a cherished Rio Grande Valley tradition, bringing together 24 teams of talented young cooks, educators, and families from across South Texas. Competitions like these do more than celebrate great barbecue, they strengthen community ties, honor cultural heritage, and teach students lasting lessons in teamwork, creativity, and pride in where they come from.

I want to recognize La Feria ISD Agricultural Science Teacher Mr. Robert Salazar for his leadership in launching this event, and all the educators and mentors who help students develop valuable life skills through barbecue, from collaboration and confidence to craftsmanship and commitment.

I congratulate again all the teams who fired up their pits, competed in good spirit, and brought home some serious Valley flavor. I am proud to honor a tradition that is uniquely Texan and deeply rooted in the heart of our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ENTERGY'S NUCLEAR POWER SITE, WATERFORD 3 STEAM ELECTRIC STATION IN KILLONA, LOUISIANA

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to humbly honor and celebrate the 40th anniversary of Entergy's Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station, proudly located in Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District, which I represent in Louisiana.

Since 1985, Entergy's Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station has proudly served the residents of St. Charles Parish, the State of Louisiana, and the Gulf Coast region for 40 years, providing safe, reliable, and carbon-free electricity.

Waterford 3's clean, reliable generation supports Entergy's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2050, with interim goals of a 50 percent emission rate reduction by 2030 and a 50 percent carbon-free energy-generating capacity by 2030. This plant is a cornerstone of energy resilience in Southeast Louisiana, playing a vital role in meeting the power needs of nearly half a million customers by providing a maximum dependable capacity of 1,152 megawatts and contributing to grid stability during periods of peak demand and extreme weather events.

Waterford 3 employs more than 800 employees and contractors who have demonstrated a commitment to operational excellence, nuclear safety, emergency preparedness, and professional standards, exemplifying the spirit of public service and technical leadership. Additionally, Waterford 3 has maintained a strong and ongoing partnership with the St. Charles Parish community, providing local jobs, supporting charitable organizations, investing in STEM education, and preparing future generations through workforce development initiatives.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the plant's operation and the 100th anniversary of Entergy serving the state of Louisiana. This milestone honors the legacy and achievements of its employees and the plant's significant role in Louisiana's energy future.

I congratulate Entergy's Waterford 3 Steam Electric Station, its leadership, and employees, on their anniversary. I extend my best wishes to Entergy for maintaining its commitment to powering Louisiana and for being a strong community partner throughout the state.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF LINCOLN

HON. KEVIN KILEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and recognize the Rotary Club of Lincoln on their centennial anniversary.

The Rotary Club of Lincoln began meeting one hundred years ago in 1925 and, since then, have become a pillar of the Lincoln community and a symbol of our region's character. Weekly, the organization comes together to provide aid and comfort to the less fortunate, to honor community leaders, to promote integrity, and to work towards performing meaningful service with the purpose of building a better world. The Rotary Club of Lincoln is an award-winning service club that has obtained a wide diversity of accomplishments over the years. Some of the programs they have sponsored include blood drives, food distribution, supporting Downtown Lincoln and our local agricultural industry, advancing education initiatives and extracurricular activities for students, organizing tree-planting events, and awarding scholarships, among many other efforts.

I am grateful for their significant contributions in our community and am confident that the legacy of service they have built over these past 100 years will only continue to grow in the years to come. Their efforts have made a lasting and meaningful impact in the city of Lincoln and the surrounding region, contributing towards the quality of life and well-being in our community.

It is my distinct honor to represent exemplary organizations, such as the Rotary Club of Lincoln, in Congress. Therefore, on behalf of California's 3rd Congressional District and the United States House of Representatives, I extend my most sincere congratulations to them on this remarkable milestone.

HONORING JOE SILL

HON. VINCE FONG

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. FONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Representative DAVID G. VALADAO, to honor Joe Sill of Shafter, California, on his recognition as the 2025 Kern County Cattleman of the Year.

Born in 1946 to Frank and Claire Clerou Sill, Joe was raised in a family whose roots run deep in Kern County agriculture. From an early age, he worked alongside his brothers, Mike and Tim, his sister, Trish, and many cousins in the family's potato shed in Shafter, where his parents instilled in him a strong work ethic and lifelong respect for honest labor. By age 14, Joe was driving feed trucks and caring for cattle at the Sill Properties feedlot, an experience that would spark his enduring passion for the cattle industry.

Joe graduated from Games Memorial High School in 1965, then attended the New Mexico Military Institute, where he played football and ran track before continuing his studies at Fresno State University. There, he joined the rodeo team and Kappa Sigma fraternity, graduating in 1970 with a degree in Agricultural Business Management. After college, Joe spent time working in Hawaii and later as a cowboy for Camp and Mebane Cattle Company, balancing hard work with his love of the outdoors.

Joe's spirit of adventure took him abroad to Australia in 1971, where he helped rancher Dick Stone establish his first feedlot and worked in the sheep and horse industries. Upon returning home to Kern County, Joe re-joined Sill Properties, managing cattle ranches in the Cuyama Valley in partnership with his future father-in-law, Jean Garcin. He also gained valuable experience at O.K. Meat Packing Company in Los Angeles, learning the packing and purchasing sides of the livestock business.

In 1979, Joe married the love of his life, Vicki Garcin, and together they made their home in Shafter, raising three children: Joseph, Danielle, and Dominic. As manager of the Sill Properties feedlot and several cattle ranches, Joe oversaw operations across California, Oregon, Nevada, and Arizona, ensuring the continued success of a family legacy built over generations.

After retiring from Sill Properties in 2018, Joe remained active in the family's enterprises by serving on numerous boards. He and Vicki also founded J & V Sill Cattle Company with their three children, a venture that has become Joe's greatest joy. Today, he continues to share his deep knowledge and love of the ranching lifestyle with his eight grandchildren, who represent the next generation of Kern County cattlemen and women.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VALADAO and I, ask our colleagues to join us in congratulating Joe Sill on being named the 2025 Kern County Cattleman of the Year, and in celebrating his lasting contributions to Kern County's proud agricultural heritage.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF DR.
JOSEPH I. CASTRO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life and legacy of Dr. Joseph Isaac Castro, a devoted educator, public servant, and beloved son of California's San Joaquin Valley, who passed away on August 14, 2025, at the age of 58, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Dr. Castro's life embodied the American Dream. Born and raised in Hanford California, the grandson of Mexican immigrants and farmworkers, and the son of a single mother, he rose from humble beginnings to become a national leader in high education. He was the first in his family to graduate from college, earning degrees from the University of California Berkeley, and a Ph.D. from Stanford University in Higher Education Policy and Leadership.

His remarkable career spanned more than three decades, during which he held senior leadership roles across the University of California system, including Berkeley, Davis, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, and as a part of the founding leadership at UC Merced.

In 2013, Dr. Castro made history by becoming President of California State University, Fresno; the first native Californian and first Mexican American to serve in this role. Under his transformative leadership, Fresno State emerged as a national leader in supporting and graduating students from diverse and underrepresented backgrounds.

On January 4, 2021, Dr. Castro assumed the role of CSU Chancellor, becoming the first Mexican American and the first California native to lead the 23-campus CSU system. His appointment represents a milestone for diversity in higher education and a hopeful future for the nearly half a million students across the CSU system.

Dr. Castro was more than an accomplished academic administrator; he was a kind and compassionate man who inspired thousands. He believed deeply in the transformative power of education to change lives, families, and entire communities. His leadership earned national recognition, including the prestigious Ohtli Award, the highest honor given by the Government of Mexico for service to the Mexican and Mexican American community.

To his family, Dr. Joseph I. Castro was a devoted husband, father, and man of faith. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Mary; their children Isaac, Lauren, and Jess; and daughter-in-law, Marilyn; as well as by his friends and the many lives he touched throughout his life. Even in his final months, he remained guided by purpose and a deep belief in every student's potential. His legacy lives on in the lives he changed, the institutions he strengthened, and the communities he served.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Joseph Isaac Castro for his extraordinary service to California and the Nation. May his life continue to inspire future generations to lead with vision, compassion, and an unshakable commitment to justice and opportunity for all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LEE
GARY "TOT" BOOKER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lee Gary "Tot" Booker, who passed away peacefully on September 10, 2025, at the age of 85. Mr. Booker was a trailblazing firefighter, a dedicated public servant, and a beloved member of the Marin County community.

Born on July 9, 1940, in Bryant, Mississippi, Gary overcame a childhood marked by serious illness through the care of his grandparents, who raised him as their own. He excelled in both academics and athletics, showing early signs of the determination and perseverance that would define his life. He left Mississippi after high school and moved to Marin City, California, where he joined his mother and stepfather and immediately began working at Marin General Hospital.

In 1961, Gary was drafted by the state of Mississippi but chose instead to enlist in the United States Navy in San Rafael, California. He served nearly six years, including aboard the U.S.S. Ticonderoga during the Vietnam War, where he worked on crash, firefighting, and rescue teams. His service shaped his lifelong calling to protect others.

Upon completing his military service, Gary joined the Marin County Fire Department in 1966. Over the course of three decades, he broke barriers and blazed trails of firsts. In 1970, he became the first African American Fire Captain in Marin County, leading the Marin City Station and establishing its first community relations program. His leadership, professionalism, and courage earned him successive promotions to Assistant Fire Chief in 1981, Battalion Chief in 1984, and County Safety Officer later in his distinguished career. Through his many years of service, Mr. Booker received numerous awards and honors for his dedication to the safety and well-being of Marin County residents.

In 1970, Gary married Judith Ann Du Pont. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who cherished time with his family and found joy in the outdoors. An avid hunter and fisherman, Gary's annual trips to Colorado and Montana were a source of great happiness. His warmth, humor, and storytelling made him a pillar in his community and a mentor to countless colleagues and friends.

Mr. Booker is survived by his daughter, Lomia and her husband Allen, stepdaughter Donnailla, and his grandchildren Nicole, Alayah, and Jordan. He is also survived by his brothers Ralph and Drew, sisters Trellis and Norma, and his uncle Tobe, as well as many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Judith, daughter Garrian "Beetle," and several siblings.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Lee Gary "Tot" Booker was a man of courage and vision whose trailblazing service helped shape the Marin County Fire Department and inspired generations of firefighters who followed. I respectfully ask that you join me in honoring his extraordinary life and extending condolences to his family, friends, and all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

RECOGNIZING VINCE MARCHETTA
AS THE CHAMPION OF THE
WEEK FOR OHIO'S 13TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vince Marchetta as the Champion of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Vince recently earned the State Lead Ambassador of the Year Award from the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. This award recognizes his efforts to help make cancer a national priority.

After losing his wife, Betsy, to metastatic cervical cancer, Vince became dedicated to supporting families affected by cancer and fighting for a cure. As an American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network volunteer for the past six years, Vince has worked tirelessly alongside some of the most dedicated and passionate advocates to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

Specifically, he has worked to advocate for better screening to prevent late-stage diagnosis, improving access to health care and treatment, clinical trials, and funding for research for those battling cancer. He is passionate about ensuring all Americans have access to the medical care that could save their lives.

With this award, and all the hard work that came before it, Vince is a shining example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions." He has certainly made our community proud.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF
ERICA "RIKKI" MILLER AND HER
WORK ON BEHALF OF MICHIGAN'S
3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the remarkable contributions of a woman who needs no introduction, Ms. Erica "Rikki" Miller, to our country and to the House of Representatives. For nearly the last decade, Rikki has served with integrity, compassion, and a deep sense of duty. Whether it was driving a Member as a humble staff assistant, enhancing the caucus communications, directing communications on energy policy for a senior Member of Energy and Commerce or helping a brand new freshman establish her office as chief of staff, Rikki approached every task with the same commitment—to make life better for the people we serve.

Rikki's decade of congressional service began as an intern for Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL, where she was soon hired full time as constituent relations and press assistant. After two years with Congresswoman DINGELL, Rikki joined now Leader JEFFRIES inaugural leadership team. As their press assistant, Rikki helped plan the Caucus issues conference and lead the Caucus's communication

efforts during the Mueller trials and historic first impeachment. She then spent four years with Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR as her communications director, where she led the team during the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath.

After four years with Congresswoman CASTOR, Rikki was called back home to Michigan to be chief of staff for my district office. As chief, Rikki helped build the office from the ground up, leading the team through my first term. There, Rikki established herself as a mentor to those in the office, and to other chiefs as well.

Public service isn't always glamorous. It demands patience, perseverance, and quiet strength. There are early mornings, late nights, and countless moments when the work you do goes unnoticed by the world outside. But it's people like Rikki who keep everything running—the unseen hands and steady hearts behind the work we all depend on, whether we realize it or not.

Rikki has been so much more than a House employee, she's been a mentor to new young staff, a colleague, and a friend to all. Rikki lights up any room she walks in. She knows everyone's name and treats everyone the same. She has shared her knowledge generously, guided others through challenges, and shown us what public service truly looks like. Many of us here have learned from her—not just how to do our jobs, but how to do them with purpose.

We will miss Rikki and her steady presence, her joyful spirit, and her years of experience. But we take comfort in knowing that the values she has instilled will continue to guide this workplace in the dozens of new staffers she has trained and inspired. She has left it stronger, kinder, and more resilient than when she arrived.

On behalf of a grateful country, and especially the people of Michigan's 3rd Congressional District, we thank her.

HONORING THE VISIT OF HIS ALL-HOLINESS ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. SARAH MCBRIDE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, this September, our Nation had the distinct honor of welcoming His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C. As the spiritual leader of over 300 million Orthodox Christians around the world, His All-Holiness has earned global recognition. His decades of service have been marked by moral clarity and a steadfast belief that faith must be a force for reconciliation.

In every part of the world, the Ecumenical Patriarch has used his respected voice to unite religious leaders against the use of violence in the name of faith. At the same time, he has advanced the causes of human rights and environmental protection—issues that reflect his conviction that moral responsibility extends to both humanity and creation. His visit to Washington this September was a continuation of that mission, as he met with President Donald Trump and Members of Congress from

both parties to reaffirm our shared values of peace and understanding.

During this historic visit, His All-Holiness was also recognized in New York with the Templeton Prize—one of the world's most distinguished honors celebrating spiritual vision and leadership. This recognition, together with his meetings in our capital, reflects the vital role that faith leaders of his stature play in advancing the universal principles of liberty, mutual respect, and dialogue that strengthen our common humanity.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN CHARLES HARRIS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John Charles Harris, a giant of California agriculture and the San Joaquin Valley, who recently passed away at the age of 81. He was a devoted husband, visionary businessman, mentor, leader, and dear friend whose contributions shaped generations of farmers, ranchers, and horsemen throughout our state and Nation.

John was born on July 14, 1943, and was a lifelong resident of Fresno County. A proud graduate of UC Davis, he also served honorably in the United States Army. His roots in the Valley ran deep, and his lifelong dedication to agriculture and community set him apart as a pillar of integrity and service.

As the driving force behind Harris Farms and Harris Ranch Beef Company, John played a pivotal role in building one of California's largest and most innovative agricultural enterprises. From his family's beginnings in farming, he helped grow Harris Farms into a sprawling multimillion-dollar operation known for its innovation, quality, and sustainability. The farm produced over 30 different crops including garlic, pistachios, and wine grapes, and was home to the iconic Harris Ranch Inn and Restaurant, a familiar and beloved stop for travelers on Interstate 5 between Los Angeles and San Francisco. Under John's leadership, Harris Ranch Beef Company became one of the largest beef producers in the Western United States.

Beyond the ranch, John was revered in the world of Thoroughbred horse racing. He bred and raced numerous champions and stood out as a passionate advocate for the industry. His leadership extended to roles on the California Horse Racing Board, California Thoroughbred Breeders Association, Thoroughbred Owners of California, and the Jockey Club.

John's influence transcended business and horse racing. He was deeply committed to education, mentorship, and philanthropy. John's leadership extended far beyond agriculture and racing. He was a devoted advocate for education and public service. Whether through philanthropy, mentorship, or policy leadership, he was always focused on empowering the next generation. John supported Fresno State's Maddy Institute and established the Jack A. Harris Memorial Scholarship Fund to help young agricultural leaders succeed. His acts of generosity, whether public or private, were grounded in a genuine belief in uplifting others and investing in the future of his community.

In June of this year, John married Cookie Harris. He is survived by Cookie, extended family, and many cherished friends, colleagues, and mentees who were touched by his humility, wisdom, and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the extraordinary life of John Charles Harris, my dear friend whose legacy, rooted in hard work, vision, and generosity, will live on through the land he stewarded, the horses he raised, the communities he served, and the countless lives he inspired.

RECOGNIZING FREEMAN JOHNSON

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Freeman Johnson, a resident of Centerville, Massachusetts and the oldest survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Born on March 11, 1920, Johnson was raised in Waltham, Massachusetts. After graduating high school, Johnson attended Massachusetts Nautical School in Boston, presently Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Buzzards Bay. He then went on to enlist in the United States Navy in December 1939. After completing training in Newport, Rhode Island, Johnson was assigned to serve aboard the USS *St. Louis* as a Machinist First Class.

On the morning of December 7, 1941, the USS *St. Louis* was docked at Pearl Harbor awaiting repairs to its boiler. Johnson was working at the bottom of the ship in the boiler room when the attacks began. Although he could not see the strikes, he could feel and hear the vibrations as the USS *Arizona* and USS *Oklahoma* were struck. Understanding the urgency of the situation, Johnson and his fellow shipmates quickly got to work to repair the boiler. In less than 40 minutes the USS *St. Louis* was up and underway, earning the nickname "the Lucky Lou."

After Pearl Harbor, Johnson was transferred to the USS *Iowa* to help commission the ship that would bring President Franklin D. Roosevelt across the Atlantic Ocean for the Tehran Conference with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin in November 1943. It was also on the USS *Iowa* in Tokyo Bay, where Johnson would watch the Japanese sign the Instrument of Surrender on the USS *Missouri*.

After the war, Johnson returned home to Waltham and married Ruth Hills. Together they raised three daughters, Diane, Edie, and Cindy. For many years, Johnson worked as a machinist at W.H. Nichols. Known for his steadfast work ethic, he retired at age 90 from Meals on Wheels.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Freeman Johnson, and I ask that my colleagues join me this Veterans Day in thanking him and the millions of veterans and service members who have bravely dedicated their lives to protecting our country.

RECOGNIZING THE 130TH
ANNIVERSARY OF FAIR OAKS

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fair Oaks on their 130th Anniversary. Originally founded as an agricultural colony, Fair Oaks has grown into an area of deep cultural history and a strong sense of community.

The land in Fair Oaks was part of the original 1844 Mexican Land Grant, Rancho San Juan, and was advertised as a new paradise waiting for farmers looking to make a comfortable living. Even though founding residents experienced hardships like the Great Depression, World War II, and a devastating freeze that wiped out many citrus crops, the area continued to thrive and develop.

As Fair Oaks grew, so too did its industry and commerce. The completion of the Folsom and Nimbus dams, and arrival of Aerojet signaled a new page in Fair Oaks' history. Fair Oaks is a booming town that continues to change with its fast-growing population.

It is with great appreciation to the Fair Oaks Historical Society that the founding and legacy of Fair Oaks has continued to be preserved and honored. On this day, the Society celebrates their 50th Anniversary alongside Fair Oaks' 130th Anniversary.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing this day as Fair Oaks' 130th Anniversary and commend this community's beautiful history.

HONORING KENTUCKY CHIEF
JUSTICE DEBRA LAMBERT

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the first female Chief Justice of Kentucky Debra Hembree Lambert, who was elected to the helm of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Kentucky by her fellow Justices. Chief Justice Lambert will serve a four-year term, which began on January 6, 2025.

Chief Justice Lambert is a proud native of Bell County, a rural community in Kentucky's Appalachian Mountains and part of Kentucky's 5th Congressional District. During her investiture, she reflected on how her childhood shaped her pursuit of justice, stating, "When you grow up so modestly, you develop a strong sense of a need for a level playing field and for everyone to be heard. Those concepts are foundational in my world view."

Chief Justice Lambert has 17 years of experience on the Kentucky Court of Justice, having served as Circuit Judge/Family Court division for the 28th Judicial Circuit, Kentucky Court of Appeals, and Justice for Kentucky's 3rd Supreme Court District. She was also tapped to lead the first Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health in 2022, working to improve the justice system for individuals with mental health issues, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. In fact, she volunteers as a certified

suicide prevention trainer, training others how to properly intervene to prevent suicide.

Her compassion and fortitude for justice as a Family Court Judge inspired her to create the first Drug Court for Lincoln, Pulaski and Rockcastle counties. As the founder of Operation UNITE, I worked tirelessly to ensure those successful Drug Court efforts were funded and expanded into every county in Kentucky's 5th Congressional District, which are still in existence today. In 2002, Lambert was inducted into the Stanley M. Goldstein Drug Court Hall of Fame by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. She also volunteered at local middle schools, working 10 weeks each semester with at-risk children and families to help them avoid truancy charges.

As Chief Justice Lambert leads Kentucky's Judicial Branch of government, I am confident that she will continue to serve the Commonwealth of Kentucky with the utmost integrity and resilience, first forged in the hills of southeastern Kentucky. May God continue to bless Chief Justice Lambert and her family during her historic service as the first woman to lead our Judicial Branch.

HONORING THE MILESTONE OF
MIKE ROOS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my esteemed colleague, Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, to honor and celebrate the 80th birthday of Mr. Mike Roos, a devoted public servant, legislative leader, and lifelong advocate for California communities.

Born on August 6, 1945, in Memphis, Tennessee, Mike Roos brought to California a deep passion for public policy and a Tennessee drawl and smile that could put anyone at ease. After earning his bachelor's degree from Tulane University and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Southern California (USC), Mike embarked on a career defined by public service and civic leadership.

In 1977, he was elected to represent Los Angeles' 46th District in the California State Assembly, a role he held for 14 years as he championed issues that shaped the future of his community and the state. During his tenure, Mike rose to the role of Majority Floor Leader, and later Speaker Pro Tempore, presiding over the Assembly in the final years of his service. Throughout, he earned the respect of colleagues on both sides of the aisle for his extraordinary work ethic, sharp policy acumen, and gift for building consensus.

Mike's legislative accomplishments were both timely and visionary. In the early days of the AIDS crisis, when few dared to touch the issue, Mike took bold action to protect the state's blood supply and the public's health. He authored pioneering legislation that laid the groundwork for HIV testing protocols and blood safety, long before it became part of the national conversation. He was also instrumental in advancing California's first recycling law, helping negotiate key amendments to move the "Bottle Bill" out of committee after years of delay. And of course, he co-authored the landmark Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons

Control Act of 1989, the first law of its kind in the Nation, setting a precedent for common-sense gun reforms that still resonate today.

But what truly made Mike stand out was his political compass, he proudly led what he called the "radical center," a group of legislators who reached across the aisle to forge compromises and get things done. In an era when bipartisanship was both a necessity and an art, Mike was a master. His humor, eloquence, and deep sense of purpose made him a trusted leader and an impassioned voice on the Assembly floor. When Mike got serious, people listened.

Beyond his legislative achievements, Mike has been a tireless advocate for education, civil rights, public health, and responsible governance. Whether leading the Los Angeles Educational Alliance for Restructuring Now (LEARN) or mentoring the next generation of civic leaders, Mike has never strayed from his core belief in the power of public service.

Mike is also a devoted and loving father to two daughters—Shelby and Melissa—and a proud grandfather. He welcomed his daughters into his life in his early-to-mid-30's, during the height of his Assembly service, and raised them with the same generosity, humor, and grace he brought to the Legislature.

After his retirement in 1991, Mike continued to influence public policy and community development through his public affairs firm and as President of the Southern California Leadership Council, where he remains a respected voice on economic and infrastructure policy.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Roos is more than a public servant. He is a champion of reform, a proud grandfather, and a dear friend to those who have had the honor of working alongside him. As he celebrates his 80th birthday, we ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Mike's enduring legacy and wishing him continued health and happiness in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. CARLOS J. FINLAY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School, a dual-language professional development school dedicated to academic excellence and innovative instruction in Miami, Florida.

Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary first opened its doors in the fall of 2000 under the visionary leadership of Principal Lourdes P. Gimenez, who spearheaded the school's founding and development. Since then, successive principals, most recently Ms. Madelyn Rodriguez, have carried forward the mission of providing a world-class child-centered education.

Named in honor of Dr. Carlos Juan Finlay, the world-renowned Cuban epidemiologist who discovered that the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito was the carrier of yellow fever, the school proudly celebrates his legacy of scientific discovery. Its students, affectionately known as the "Skeeters," embody Dr. Finlay's persistence, curiosity, and commitment to learning.

As a proud Title I school, Finlay Elementary combines its dual-language Bilingual School

Organization model with its partnership as a Professional Development School with Florida International University to ensure students are bilingual, biliterate, and prepared to succeed in today's interconnected world.

I am proud to commend all the faculty, staff, students, and families of Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary for twenty-five years of excellence, innovation, and community service. Their dedication exemplifies the very best of Miami-Dade County's public education system. Go Skeeters.

RECOGNIZING APRIL WOODY

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague Congressman VINCE FONG to recognize Ms. April Woody on being awarded the 2025 Cattlewoman of the Year by the Kern County Cattlewomen's Association.

Nearly sixty years ago, April Woody joined her husband, Ron Woody, in continuing his family's cattle ranching operation. Though new to ranching, she quickly learned the ropes and became an essential part of the operation, helping to carry forward a legacy rooted in hard work and dedication to the family business. Ms. Woody joined the Kern County Cattlewomen in 1969 and became deeply involved in the organization's community work. She organized the fair booth, served on the Cattle Princess Selection Committee, and brought humor to the High Fever Follies fundraiser by wearing the group's famous "beef cut suit." Following her early involvement with the Kern County Cattlewomen, Ms. Woody began a distinguished career in education. She taught both junior high and high school English before earning two master's degrees in Pupil Personnel Services and Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling. For the final sixteen years of her career, she served as a counselor at Centennial High School in Bakersfield, where she dedicated herself to the academic and personal development of all students. Since her retirement, Ms. Woody has reconnected with the cattle community and remains involved with the Kern County Cattlewomen. Over the past nine years, she has served in numerous leadership roles, including Vice President and President. Currently she serves as Secretary and on the Board of Directors, chairs the organization's annual Clay Shoot, and has chaired the Scholarship Committee for seven years. Beyond her service to Kern County Cattlewomen, Ms. Woody also remains active in her church and throughout the community.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in congratulating Ms. April Woody on being named Kern County's 2025 Cattlewoman of the Year. Her dedication to agriculture, education, and service to the community embodies the values that define the Central Valley.

HONORING DR. BOBBY G. COOPER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable educator, musician, and mentor whose influence has shaped generations of students and preserved the musical legacy of a historic institution, Dr. Bobby G. Cooper.

Perhaps Dr. Cooper's most enduring contribution is the revival of the renowned Utica Jubilee Singers. Originally formed in the early 1900s by Dr. William Holtzclaw, founder of Utica Institute, the Jubilee Singers carried forward a tradition of spirituals rooted in the heritage of the Tuskegee model. Inspired by Holtzclaw's book *Black Man's Burden* and the collected works of J. Roseman Johnson (brother to poet James Weldon Johnson), Dr. Cooper reimaged this historic group in 1980. For forty-five years, he was a pillar of Hinds Community College's Utica Campus, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to education, culture, and community.

What began as a small quartet soon grew choir of young men who carried the soul of Mississippi's spiritual legacy across the Nation and abroad, performing everywhere from community gatherings to international stages in Italy. Though their musical range has broadened over time, Dr. Cooper ensured their foundation remained the spirituals that tell the story of faith, struggle, perseverance.

Born and raised in Bolton, Mississippi, Dr. Cooper's love of music began in childhood. Without a piano of his own, he practiced on a wooden apple crate until, by a stroke of generosity, a local family gifted him a piano. That simple act helped set the course of a lifetime. His journey took him from the Bolton Colored School to Tougaloo Prep and Tougaloo College, and later to advanced studies that culminated in a doctorate.

Before joining the Utica faculty in 1972, Dr. Cooper taught at E.T. Hawkins High School in Forest, Mississippi, and later held positions in Scott County and Colorado, where he pursued his doctoral studies. Over the years, he became not only an educator but a cultural bridge, using music to teach discipline, unity, and pride.

Beyond the classroom, Dr. Cooper shaped the lives of young people in his hometown of Bolton, offering piano lessons and encouragement during a time when there were few Black pianists in the area. His mentorship opened doors for countless children who might never have otherwise discovered their musical gifts.

His home walls are filled with plaques and awards, yet his truest legacy is found in the lives of those he mentored. Many of his former students, including educators and professional musicians, continue to honor him by keeping the Jubilee spirit alive.

Even after 45 years of service, Dr. Cooper continues to share his gift of music every Sunday at Asbury Methodist Church in Bolton, where he has faithfully played for decades. With humility and grace, he reflects on a life of purpose, service, and song, one that has inspired students throughout Mississippi and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Bobby G. Cooper, an ex-

traordinary Mississippian whose lifelong devotion to education and music has preserved an invaluable cultural legacy for generations to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHEILA RIGGINS-WHITE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sheila Riggins-White, who recently passed away at the age of 77. She was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

Sheila was born on June 15, 1948, and had deep roots in the City of Fresno. A proud graduate of Fresno State, Sheila made history in 1989 as the first African American to receive the University's Presidential Medal through the Kremen School of Education and Human Development.

Sheila dedicated her life to education, serving as a teacher and mentor to generation of students, educators, and administrators throughout Fresno. Her impact extended far beyond the classroom—she served as President of the PTA and worked to build strong, lasting bridges between schools and families.

She was also a woman of deep faith, serving as an ordained minister at St. Rest Baptist Church, Fresno's most historic Black church, which was founded by her father, the late Dr. Chester Riggins. Her voice, presence, and leadership inspired thousands, both within the congregation and the broader community.

In addition to her service in education and ministry, Sheila was a gifted artist and poet. Her published work, *Mother Africa*, continues to be discussed and celebrated more than three decades after its release. Sheila was preceded in death by her husband, Paul C. White, who dedicated his life to community development as Assistant Executive Director of the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission. Together they raised six children and were blessed with thirteen grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the extraordinary life of Sheila Riggins-White. Her legacy as an educator, minister, artist, and matriarch will live on in the countless lives she touched. We extend our deepest condolences, thoughts, and prayers to her family and to all who had the privilege of knowing her.

HONORING JOYCE SKONIECZNY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Joyce Skonieczny, who faithfully served her community for more than four decades as St. Clair Township Clerk. In recognition of her remarkable dedication, the Township has fittingly named the Township Hall in her honor.

Joyce began her service to the Township on January 15, 1979, as Deputy Clerk under then-Township Clerk Dan Ellis, and was appointed Township Clerk on April 2, 1980. Over

her distinguished 44-year career, she worked under ten supervisors—from Bob Ellery, who hired her, to her son-in-law Mike Boulter, under whom she retired on November 19, 2024.

Joyce also witnessed and supported significant growth and development in the Township, including the construction of residential neighborhoods, such as Blue River Gardens, River Ridge, River Pointe Estates, Diamond Meadows, and Golfside, as well as commercial developments like the Mobil Gas Station, Love's on Wadhams Road, and the Dollar General stores on Gratiot and Range Roads. She also saw the expansion of the Township's water and sewer district from a single corridor along River Road to the many subdivisions that exist today.

Beyond her official duties, Joyce devoted herself to building community spirit. Beginning in the early 1980s and continuing until 2020, she organized and hosted a monthly senior luncheon at the Township Hall, held on the third Tuesday of each month. This cherished tradition brought neighbors together for food, fellowship, and friendship.

After 44 years of service, Joyce retired with the respect and gratitude of her community. She leaves behind a legacy of professionalism, kindness, and steadfast commitment to public service. In retirement, she continues to enjoy reading and cherishing time with family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Joyce Skonieczny for her many years of outstanding service and dedication to her community. Her name, now permanently affixed to the Township Hall, will continue to inspire future generations of public servants.

REMEMBERING DANNY BUCKMAN

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Danny Buckman.

A native of Lebanon, Kentucky, Danny Buckman was born on February 2, 1954, to Robert "Bobby" Ray and Mary "Pauline" Buckman. Danny was a lifelong farmer in Marion County who truly loved what he did—growing corn, soybeans, and tobacco, and raising hogs and beef cattle. Farming wasn't just his work; it was a way of life he took great pride in.

He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who found great joy in his family. Danny and his wife of 39 years, Sheliah, raised six children—Emily, Olivia, Ben, Katie, Laura, and Elizabeth—and were blessed with two grandchildren, Mia and Finley Ray.

Danny was a man of quiet faith and deep roots, a lifelong member of Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church in Finley, Kentucky. Friends and family often said the same simple and powerful sentiment: "Danny was a good man." One friend put it best—"He may have been a small man, but he was a big man when you needed him to be."

On August 27, 2025, Danny Buckman passed away at the age of 71. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, children, grandchildren, and all those who loved him as we remember and celebrate a life so well lived.

RECOGNIZING TIM HAUSER AS THE CHAMPION OF THE WEEK FOR OHIO'S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tim Hauser as the Champion of the Week for Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

Tim was recently named the Veteran of the Year by the Veterans Service Commission of Summit County. He is a Gulf War veteran and founder of the Veterans Assurance Network, which provides advocacy, support, education, services, and resources to veterans and their families.

In 1982, Tim joined the U.S. Air Force, where he was deployed to Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm. There, he was exposed to toxic burn pits and oil well fires purposely set by Iraqi forces.

The Department of Defense estimates 3.5 million service members were exposed to toxic burn pits during their time serving abroad. Exposure to burn pits and other toxic airborne substances has been linked to serious health effects, including certain cancers.

Tim worked closely with federal lawmakers to help get the PACT Act signed into law. This landmark law expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances.

Tim is also passionate about veteran suicide prevention, and even helped advocate for September 22 to be recognized as Veteran Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day in Ohio.

With this award, and all the hard work that came before it, Tim is a shining example of why Ohio's 13th Congressional District is known as the "Birthplace of Champions." He has certainly made our community proud.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEVE DAN MAGARIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Steve Dan Magarian, a devoted father, friend, and public servant, who passed away on September 22, 2025, at the age of 82.

Born in Fresno California, on October 13, 1942, Steve was the son of Dan and Alice Magarian and grew up, steeped in the values of hard work, service, and community. He graduated from Roosevelt High School and went on to earn both his bachelor's and master's degrees with distinction from California State University, Fresno.

Steve's early career was altered by a motor vehicle accident that ended his pursuit of military aviation in the United States Air Force. Instead, he returned home and rejoined the grocery business, becoming a store manager in his twenties. But it was his role as a reserve deputy with the Fresno County Sheriff's Office that would change the trajectory of his life.

In 1968, he became a full-time deputy sheriff, beginning a career in law enforcement that

would span more than three decades. He served numerous assignments, including jail, courts, patrol, and steadily rose through the ranks. In 1986, Steve was elected as Fresno County's 23rd sheriff, taking office in 1987. He was reelected twice, unopposed, and served until his retirement in 1999.

Under Sheriff Magarian's leadership, the department secured several milestones, including the construction of the Main Jail and North Annex Jail, the creation of the Air Support Unit, and the implementation of one of the Nation's first computerized field reporting systems. He also spearheaded the formation of the Multi-Agency Gang Enforcement Consortium (MAGEC).

After retiring from law enforcement, Steve continued to serve the community as a professor at California State University, Fresno, teaching part time for 20 years and shaping the next generation of law enforcement professionals with a focus on ethics and integrity, which were his characteristic traits.

He also served as Chief of Investigations for the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, and most recently, as a Trustee of the Fresno Sheriff's Memorial Foundation, where he helped lead efforts to honor fallen officers with a permanent memorial.

Steve Magarian was deeply devoted to his family. He is survived by his wife Joanne, his daughters Erica Magarian and Gina (Brian) Blodgett, and his cherished grandsons, Brandon and Brayden. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dan and Alice, and his sister, Delores Merlo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Steve Dan Magarian for his extraordinary service to the people of Fresno County and the state of California. May his life continue to inspire future generations to lead with courage, integrity, and unwavering commitment to public service and community.

RECOGNIZING THE DECATUR TELEPHONE COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of small-town business owners and the impact they have on local communities and to honor the Bailey family and their locally-run Telephone business.

In 1945, newlyweds William D. "Bill" Bailey and Louise Robinson Bailey returned to Bill's hometown of Decatur and purchased the Decatur Telephone Company. For eighty years Decatur Telephone Company has served the East Mississippi community with connectivity. They have gone from the original 7 individual phones in 1945 to laying fiber-optic cable today for a fully digitalized system privately owned in rural Mississippi. The Baileys have made a massive impact on their local community through their active participation in local groups, their church, and their support for their employees. Mr. Bailey passed away in 2015, and Mrs. Bailey continued in daily assistance of the operation of the company until her passing in 2018.

Today, their daughter Dr. Esther Bailey Smith keeps the Decatur Telephone Company

tradition of service alive. Her dedication to the family legacy ensures continued service for many years to come. I am proud to represent Decatur Telephone Company in my Congressional District.

HONORING THE VALLEY BAPTIST
MEDICAL CENTER FOR REACH-
ING AN EXTRAORDINARY MILE-
STONE

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Valley Baptist Medical Center in Harlingen, Texas, for reaching an extraordinary milestone, treating more than 14,000 stroke cases and transforming stroke care across the Rio Grande Valley.

Before Dr. Ameer Hassan joined Valley Baptist in 2012, stroke patients in South Texas had to travel hours to receive life-saving treatment. Today, thanks to his leadership and the dedication of the neuroscience team, our community has access to some of the most advanced stroke care in the Nation.

Valley Baptist established the first Comprehensive Stroke Center in the region and pioneered the world's first "Hub and Spoke" model integrating AI-powered imaging and mobile stroke alert systems. As a result, stroke mortality and long-term disability in the Valley have decreased by more than 50 percent, with many community members now returning home healthy and whole.

I also commend Dr. Hassan's wife, Summer Hassan, and the Stroke Research and Education Foundation for their tireless work to raise awareness and expand community edu-

cation through events like the South Texas Comprehensive Stroke Symposium and the Red Ball fundraiser.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Valley Baptist Medical Center, Dr. Ameer Hassan, and the entire stroke care team for their groundbreaking contributions to medicine and their lasting impact on the health and well-being of families across South Texas.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DONALD
GEORGE LARSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Donald George Larson, who recently passed away at the age of 91. He was a beloved father, grandfather, and a pillar of the Fresno academic and civic communities.

Born on September 5, 1933, in San Francisco to Bengt John and Olive Larson, Donald grew up in Kerman, alongside his twin brother, Phillip and older brother, Galen.

A gifted student, Donald graduated early from Kerman High School and went on to earn degrees from College of the Sequoias, UC Berkeley, and Fresno State. During his time at Berkeley, Donald played in the Cal Band and served as the beloved mascot, Oski the Bear.

Donald found his true calling in education. He began teaching sixth grade in Caruthers and settled his way into a remarkable 35-year career at Fresno City College, where he taught history. Donald also taught current event classes for senior citizens from 1965 to 2010. His passion for civic engagement extended to local television, where he served as

a trusted political commentator beginning in 1980.

Donald believed deeply in the values of sportsmanship, mentorship, and community. He began scoring basketball games in 1948 and worked in the football chain gang at Fresno City College for over 30 years.

Beyond the classroom and field, Donald brought joy to those around him through small gestures and grand traditions, most notably his legendary Christmas light displays, which turned his home into a beacon of holiday cheer and community spirit year after year.

Donald held a lifelong fascination with Worlds' Fairs. His collection is housed at Fresno State's University Library and named in his honor. In recognition of his decades-long support of Fresno State, he was honored as the library's "Top Dog" in 2011.

As a man of deep and steady faith, Donald was a devoted member of First Covenant Church in Fresno, where he taught Sunday school since 1950.

In his final years, he shared a home with his granddaughter Jessica, her husband Trevor, and their children, a time marked by love, laughter and enduring connection.

Donald was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Carol Kratt Larson. He is survived by his daughter Lynn Roth and son-in-law Daniel Roth; his grandchildren Jennifer Roth and Jessica Bryant, along with Trevor Bryant, husband to Jessica; and his great-grandchildren Rachel, Charlotte, and Isaac Bryant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Donald George Larson. His legacy as an educator, historian, and man of faith will live on in the countless lives he touched. We extended our deepest condolences, thoughts, and prayers to his family and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 13, 2025.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 25 public bills, H.R. 6019–6043; and 2 resolutions, H. Res. 874–875, were introduced. **Pages H4666–67**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4667–68**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 873, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5371) making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–372);

H.R. 1736, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct annual assessments on terrorism threats to the United States posed by terrorist organizations utilizing generative artificial intelligence applications, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 119–373);

H.R. 2212, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–374);

H.R. 2261, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the Department of Homeland Security's oversight of certain intelligence matters, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–375);

H.R. 5062, to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to codify the Transportation Security Administration's responsibility relating to securing pipeline transportation and pipeline facilities against cybersecurity threats, acts of terrorism, and other nefarious acts that jeopardize the physical security or cybersecurity of pipelines, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–376);

H.R. 5078, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the State and local cybersecurity grant program of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 119–377);

H.R. 2259, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the development of a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against acts of terrorism, and ensure domestic preparedness for and the response to terrorism, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–378); and

H.R. 979, to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–379, Part 1).

Pages H4665–66

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bost to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H4593

Recess: The House recessed at 12:03 p.m. and reconvened at 4:08 p.m.

Page H4593

Oath of Office—Seventh Congressional District of Arizona: Representative-elect Adelita S. Grijalva presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a copy of a letter received from the Honorable Adrian Fontes, Arizona Secretary of State, indicating that, at the Special Election held on September 23, 2025, the

Honorable Adelita S. Grijalva was elected Representative to Congress for the Seventh Congressional District of Arizona. **Page H4594**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Arizona, the whole number of the House is 433. **Page H4595**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Perez announced her intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Page H4609**

Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2026: The House concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371, making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, by a yeand-nay vote of 222 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 284. **Pages H4595–H4609, H4609–64**

H. Res. 873, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5371) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 213 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 284, after the previous question was ordered by a yeand-nay vote of 216 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 283. **Pages H4595–H4609**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Sherrill wherein he resigned from the Committee on Armed Services and the Select Committee on Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. **Page H4664**

Expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Richard B. Cheney: The House agreed to H. Res. 874, expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Richard B. Cheney. **Page H4664**

Discharge Petition: Representative Jeffries presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 780) entitled, a resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1834) to advance policy priorities that will break the gridlock (Discharge Petition No. 10).

Senate Referrals: S. 778 was held at the desk. S. 2296 was held at the desk. S. 2392 was held at the desk. **Page H4593**

Senate Message: Message from the Senate received by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H4593.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeand-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4608, H4609, and H4664.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:26 p.m., pursuant to House Resolution 874, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Richard B. Cheney.

Committee Meetings

SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, AGRICULTURE, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND EXTENSIONS ACT, 2026

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on the Senate Amendment to H.R. 5371, the “Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 8–4, a rule providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371, the “Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026”. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5371. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion and the Senate amendment. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides one hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. Testimony was heard from Chairman Cole, and Representatives DeLauro, Jeffries, Clark of Massachusetts, Wasserman Schultz, Dexter, Randall, Bonamici, Ansari, Subramanyam, Salinas, Vindman, Olszewski, Stansbury, Horsford, Barragán, Raskin, and Hayes.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

6:30 p.m., Thursday, November 13

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, November 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m.

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